

IS TIME RUNNING OUT?

Herald INTERNATIONAL Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

The World's Daily Newspaper

** R

London, Saturday-Sunday, April 3-4, 1999

No. 36,106

Kosovars' Plight 'Extremely Grave,' NATO Says

Growth Signals Asian Recovery Forecasts Exceeded, IMF Says

Bloomberg News

SINGAPORE — Economic growth in South Korea this year may exceed the 2 percent forecast by the International Monetary Fund just two months ago, the agency's top Asian official said Friday, and Thailand and Malaysia also appear headed for stronger growth than expected.

The assessment by Hubert Neiss, the IMF director for Asia and the Pacific, is the latest indication that the economic crisis that sent financial markets tumbling

The U.S. jobless rate hits a 29-year low. Page 9.

around the world beginning in July 1997 has finally begun to bottom out in many parts of Asia.

Throughout the region, Mr. Neiss said, "the decisive event is that during the course of the year, production hits bottom and turns around." But he added that Asian recovery would be slow and would rely on a revival of domestic demand and further re-organization of troubled companies and their debts.

In South Korea, it is possible that "the recovery is even a bit steeper" this year than expected, Mr. Neiss said, adding that the economy may expand 4 percent or more next year.

In another sign of Asian economic resurgence, demand for business executives who earn more than \$150,000 per year is rising across the region, with an 8 percent increase in the fourth quarter from the third, according to the executive search company Korn/Ferry International.

"The increased demand for senior executives in the industrial field may be an indication that the Asian economies have hit bottom and that recruitment for executives should no longer be held back," according to a report by the company.

Windle Priem, the president and chief executive of Korn/Ferry, said: "Companies are now discounting this region's ability to bounce back to full strength."

Several Asian economies are reporting their worst recession in a generation. In Hong Kong, the 6 percent

See ECONOMY, Page 12

A Dig Yields Clues To Japan's Origins Light on Jomon Era Instills Pride

By Nicholas D. Kristof
New York Times Service

AOMORI, Japan — When he was a boy, Tomihito Yoshizaki used to dig for arrowheads in some strange mounds of earth outside this city in northern Japan. Now those mounds have been excavated, resolving crucial mysteries about the ancient hunter-gatherers who lived here 5,000 years ago. Just one mystery remains: To what extent are Mr. Yoshizaki and other modern Japanese descended from those ancient people?

The origins of the Japanese people remain a much-debated puzzle, but part of the puzzle is being pieced together here on the vast archaeological site near Aomori, about 600 kilometers (375 miles) north of Tokyo. Local people like Mr. Yoshizaki, 45, had long known about the mounds and the artifacts. But they were investigated only in 1992, when surveyors preparing to build a baseball stadium uncovered evidence that this was once a village of the Jomon people, who lived in Japan from 10,000 B.C. to about 300 B.C.

Now the site is perhaps the most important archaeological dig in Japan, attracting a half-million tourists a year and shedding new light on prehistoric life here. Moreover, even after filling 40,000 boxes of material, archaeologists say that they have at least 15 more years' work before they complete their investigations here.

"The city of Aomori had very little history," Mr. Yoshizaki mused. "But now, all of a sudden, we have a great deal of history, and we're very proud of it."

The excavations have aroused enormous interest in Japan, where archaeology is a national craze. Japan spends more than \$1 billion annually in public funds to excavate some 13,000 sites each year. Archaeology books become best sellers, and leading experts often appear on television.

The issues are in some ways political, as well as archaeological, because of the rivalries in East Asia. North Korea claims that it, not Africa, is where humans first appeared. South Koreans believe that it was their emigrants who brought civilization to Japan and that a Korean clan probably founded the Japanese imperial family. Chinese suggest that Xu Pin, an ancient Chinese envoy who was sent to Japan in the third century B.C., became the first Japanese emperor, Jimmu.

These theories have not been a big hit in Japan. But the

See JAPAN, Page 4



Kosovar refugees struggling to squeeze into a truck on Friday in the northern Albanian border town of Kukes.

Stranded Refugees Fight for Bread

Macedonia and Albania Struggle to Deal With Border Nightmare

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BLACE, Macedonia — An endless tide of human misery flooded into Macedonia on Good Friday, and authorities had to send soldiers with Kalashnikov rifles to contain the swelling crowd of ethnic Albanians from Kosovo.

Some food and medical aid began arriving after noon but it seemed too little and too late for more than 20,000 refugees stranded in a field near the border. Some had spent a third night there.

When ambulance drivers tried to distribute bread, refugees scrambling for it punched each other and 10 or 20 people fought over a single piece.

Local Albanians and a few government cars also brought bread but it was in short supply.

"Kosovo does not exist any more," said a man in his 50s, shaking with anger. He told Reuters, "We do not need Europe to watch us. We want Europe to give us arms to fight the Serbs. It is better to die with a gun at home than to be here like this." Others were fighting for their lives. When the first small camp hospital opened, a steady stream of stretchers headed for it. Many patients arrived unconscious.

There appeared to be no organized food delivery and no sign at all of hot food or even tea. When a tank of drinking water arrived, many refugees picked up dirty plastic bottles littering the field to fill them.

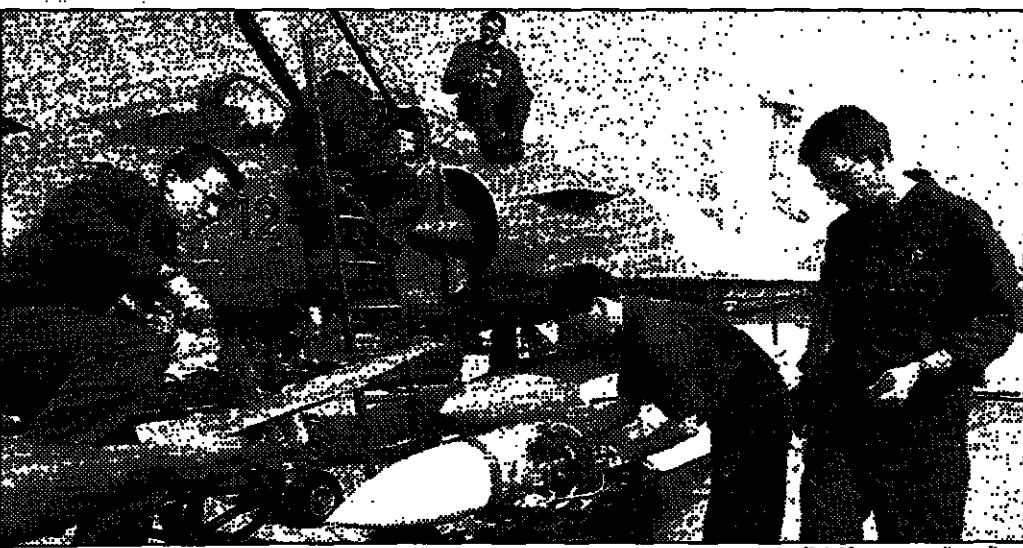
No one told the refugees what to do, where they would be taken or what would happen to them.

Similar scenes were repeated in Kukes, Albania, as both Albania and Macedonia signaled that they were being overwhelmed. "The situation is absolutely dramatic; it's reaching nightmare proportions," said Judith Kumin, a Geneva-based spokeswoman for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, which says 190,000 people have fled Kosovo since NATO air strikes began March 24.

With refugees continuing to flood into the northern town of Kukes, the impoverished country looked in danger of being swamped.

The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe said around 14,000 people had passed through the Morina border crossing between midnight and midday. It said the

See REFUGEES, Page 5



French airmen loading a missile on a Mirage fighter on Friday at a NATO base in Italy.

Alarm Over Kosovars Who Didn't Flee

By William Drozdiak
and William Branigin
Washington Post Service

As Yugoslav troops drove thousands of ethnic Albanians from Kosovo's capital by packing them into railroad cars, international relief officials expressed alarm about the fate of more than 260,000 civilians displaced within the province who are cut off from the outside world.

Trains jammed with refugees have arrived at the Macedonian border from Pristina, the Kosovo capital, and many say they were forced to leave at gunpoint. But NATO senior officials say that reconnaissance photographs reveal an even more harrowing situation in Kosovo for as many as

70,000 ethnic Albanians in Pagarusa Valley, about 50 kilometers (30 miles) southwest of Pristina. Three brigades of Yugoslav government troops have surrounded the refugees and have been raining artillery shells on them, according to General Wesley Clark, the NATO commander.

He said in Brussels that one of his most pressing priorities would be to call in air strikes on the military units that are shelling the refugees.

Refugees trapped in Kosovo are facing not only artillery batteries but also cold, hunger and illness. Those who have fled the province have provided chilling accounts of tens of thousands of people stranded in the hills. Some say that government

See KOSOVO, Page 4

Clinton's Assessment: Milosevic Determined To Rid Land of People

By Brian Knowlton
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — In one of his starkest descriptions of the situation in Kosovo, President Bill Clinton said Friday that the Yugoslav leader, Slobodan Milosevic, wanted to "keep the land of Kosovo and rid it of its people."

He added, "We cannot let that happen with impunity." In Brussels, NATO declared Friday that the forced flight of ethnic Albanians from Kosovo had produced an "extremely grave" regional crisis across the Balkans and had emptied the Yugoslav province of one-third of its population in the past 12 months.

A quarter of a million other Kosovars have been uprooted from their homes but remain within the province, NATO estimated.

Officials said that allied troops in Macedonia, where an estimated 18,000 displaced Albanian Kosovars arrived in the past day, had been ordered to assist the government there in helping refugees who are pressing across the border.

"The refugee situation," said Jamie Shea, NATO's civilian spokesman, "is extremely grave and is becoming graver by the hour." He added: "We are facing a crisis in the entire region, with far-reaching consequences."

That sentiment was seconded in Geneva by the UN High

More news about the conflict on Pages 2, 4 and 5.

Commissioner for Refugees, Sadako Ogata, who said, "The relief operation is on the verge of being overwhelmed." Mr. Clinton spoke after a briefing with humanitarian advisers, as lines of refugees flooded across Kosovo's borders, fleeing violence and threats by Serbian forces.

The humanitarian situation in Kosovo, Mr. Clinton said, remained "grave." While vowing to help aid agencies "in every way we can," he called on other countries to help.

Mr. Clinton repeated his warning that the United States would hold Mr. Milosevic responsible for the safety of three U.S. soldiers detained near the border with Macedonia. He said they had "the status of POWs," a label U.S. officials previously had shied away from using since war has not been declared.

Seeking to rebut the suggestions that the overwhelming NATO air strikes against Yugoslav targets might have prompted Mr. Milosevic to escalate a campaign of violence and expulsions against ethnic Albanians, Mr. Clinton said that reports passed on by humanitarian agencies contradicted the claims.

"The refugees coming out strongly support the action that NATO has taken," Mr. Clinton said after a meeting with advisers on humanitarian issues. He said, however, that the alliance would have to be "patient if we expect to see this mission through."

To make Kosovo safe for the return of ethnic Albanian

See NATO, Page 5

Protectorate Plan Studied

Western Troops Would Be Deployed in Kosovo As Escorts to Help Set Up Independent Entity

By Michael R. Gordon
New York Times Service

BRUSSELS — Western officials are discussing a plan under which NATO troops would escort ethnic Albanians back into Kosovo after Serbian forces there have been routed by bombing and would set up a self-governing enclave under allied protection, according to a senior NATO diplomat.

North Atlantic Treaty Organization officials have repeatedly ruled out an invasion force to halt the brutal campaign by President Slobodan Milosevic's Serbian forces, which has driven almost 190,000 ethnic Albanians from the province.

But Western officials say that, if air strikes eventually succeed in driving back the Serb military, NATO ground troops may be called in to bring back the refugees and to set up a "protectorate" — an independent entity whose security would be guaranteed by the international community but whose status would be less than a state.

The officials say this use of ground troops might be possible even if a formal peace agreement with Belgrade has not been reached, as long as it was clear that the Serbs could not mount serious resistance.

Deliberations on the plan are still in the early stages.

A senior American official in Washington said in a phone interview that much would depend on whether the

ground force will be able to enter Kosovo without facing serious military resistance from remaining Serbian troops.

"The line that has not been crossed in Washington is whether we would deploy such a force in anything but a permissive environment," the official said. "That is, an environment in which hostile forces have been removed."

Officially, NATO has continued to back the plan presented to the Serbs and ethnic Albanians at the Rambouillet Castle in France, under which Kosovo would remain a Serbian province, but with extensive autonomy for its Albanian majority. But officials have privately acknowledged that the proposal, which was rejected by the Serbs,

See PLAN, Page 5

AGENDA

Baseball Preview: The Yankees Again

The major league baseball season is ready to open, and the American League races have some familiar favorites. In the East, the New York Yankees look very strong again; in the Central, the Cleveland Indians appear headed for their fifth straight title; in the West, the Texas Rangers have the edge. A rundown of all three divisions, team by team, is on Page 16.

Books Page 6
Crossword Page 4
Opinion Page 8
Sports Pages 16-17

The Internet Pages 10, 11
The IHT online www.ihl.com

Newsstand Prices	
Bahrain.....	1,000 BD Mails..... 55 c
Cyprus.....	C £1.00 Nigeria..... 12500 Naira
Denmark.....	17 DKr Oman..... 1,250 OR
Finland.....	12.00 FM Qatar..... 10.00 QR
France.....	£ 0.85 Rep. Ireland..... IR £1.10
Great Britain.....	£1.00 Saudi Arabia..... 10 SR
Germany.....	£2.50 S. Africa..... R16 incl VAT
India.....	1,250 JD U.A.E..... 10.00 Dh
Jordan.....	K SH. 160 U.S. M. (Eur)..... \$ 1.20
Korea.....	700 Ws Zimbabwe..... Zim\$40.00

Clinton, Reluctant Warrior, Lacks Sleep and Leeway

By John F. Harris
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — A week and a half into the allied bombing campaign over Yugoslavia, President Bill Clinton is a leader short on sleep and short on options. A leader with a personal distaste for confrontation, who has said often his mission in public life is to help people peacefully reconcile their differences, is suddenly a war president.

He stays up late and gets up early, advisers say, on the line with aides getting the latest news on Kosovo, on the line with foreign leaders in an effort to keep the NATO alliance from fraying.

A politician whose early adulthood was colored by his opposition to the Vietnam War is reported by friends to be exhausted but resolute, certain that he chose the right path in ordering an air war even as it has yet to produce the results he is seeking.

But if Mr. Clinton is unwavering, the stakes of his war, envisioned as a limited operation with the aim of helping the embattled ethnic Albanian population of Kosovo against Serb aggressors, are each day increasing, with consequences far beyond the Balkans.

If President Slobodan Milosevic of Yugoslavia prevails in a campaign of "ethnic cleansing" that Mr. Clinton has said is approaching genocide, administration officials say the result could be

the emasculation of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and a drastic belittlement of U.S. standing in Europe.

But Mr. Clinton's White House reaffirmed Thursday that it was determined to resist what is a rising chorus of voices in the foreign policy establishment say is the most obvious means of avoiding this humiliation — a dramatic escalation of the war through the in-

See CLINTON, Page 5

D'Alema Faces Communist Walkout Over Easter Bombing

By Alan Friedman
International Herald Tribune

ROME — Prime Minister Massimo D'Alema of Italy struggled to keep his cabinet together on Friday in the face of a threat by his Communist partners to withdraw its ministers unless a truce in the war between NATO and Yugoslavia was achieved over the Easter weekend.

Although the D'Alema government is expected to survive the highly likely Communist walkout, political tension and anti-American sentiment were rising steadily within the governing center-left majority.

On Saturday, Armando Cossutta, leader of the Communists, is expected to win backing from his party for the withdrawal of two ministers and three deputy ministers.

Nerio Nesi, a top aide to Mr. Cossutta, said in an interview Friday that the pullout was "almost certain and reflects the fact that these NATO attacks were imposed on us by President Bill Clinton and by Mr. D'Alema without any consultation."

But Mr. Nesi also conceded that "because we have the interests of the country at heart, and since there is a war under way, and since Russian warships heading for the Adriatic, we realize that we cannot bring down the government."

For this reason, he added, "we will probably end up withdrawing our ministers but continuing to support the government in Parliament."

Besides the Communists, other elements of the Italian center-left coalition are also calling for a halt to the NATO air strikes. The small Green Party has protested the attacks, but pledged to remain in the

government. Of greater concern are a number of legislators in Mr. D'Alema's own party who object to the attacks. Roughly 90 percent of the NATO sorties take off from Italian territory.

Italian public opinion is also highly sensitive to the fact that the best known operational base for the NATO campaign is the U.S. military base in the Alpine village of Aviano.

A majority of Italians are still angry over the acquittal of Captain Richard Ashby, the U.S. Marine pilot whose EA-6B Prowler jet, based at Aviano, sheared ski lift cables nearby while on a training flight, killing 20 people.

Mr. D'Alema has thus found it politically expedient to placate the left by calling for renewed Kosovo negotiations and by flying on Easter Sunday to Albania, where he will join a number of

prominent Italians in the so-called Rainbow Mission, a humanitarian effort for refugees.

But the prime minister also has been careful to restate Italy's commitment to the NATO air campaign.

"If Milosevic continues to strike Kosovo, then NATO is going to keep striking him," Mr. D'Alema was quoted saying on Friday.

The awkwardness of Mr. D'Alema's position is compounded by the fact that opinion polls show Italians closely divided between those who support the NATO action and those who oppose it.

In addition to leftist politicians, several Roman Catholic political leaders are also vehemently against the NATO attacks. These politicians voiced their disappointment Friday at the failure of Pope John Paul II's plea for an Easter cease-fire.

Yeltsin Acts to Dismiss Top Kremlin Prosecutor

Skuratov Is Accused of 'Abuse of Power'

By David Hoffman
Washington Post Service

MOSCOW — President Boris Yeltsin unleashed a political storm on Friday by renewing his attempt to dismiss Russia's powerful chief prosecutor, Yuri Skuratov, who has been investigating allegations of high-level Kremlin wrongdoing.

Mr. Skuratov said the ouster was "absolutely illegal" but his office was sealed, his telephones cut off and his bodyguards removed. The Moscow city prosecutor said a criminal case had been opened against Mr. Skuratov for "abuse of power."

The charges and countercharges echoed from the Kremlin to Parliament and back again.

In part, the dispute is over Mr. Yeltsin's powers and diminished political stature. Also at issue is the integrity of Mr. Skuratov, who has been embroiled in a sex-on-video scandal.

But the central importance of the case is that Mr. Skuratov had dug deeply into wrongdoing at the highest levels of the Russian government.

According to well-informed Russian sources, Mr. Skuratov has been investigating bribery allegations involving high-level government officials and a Swiss construction firm, Mabeter, which had carried out major construction works on Kremlin buildings. The firm has denied any wrongdoing.

Mr. Skuratov said this week that he sent Mr. Yeltsin a report on how money illegally sent to Swiss bank accounts from Russia could be recovered. Mr. Skuratov recently met with the Swiss

general prosecutor, Carla Del Ponte, to discuss the case.

Moreover, Mr. Skuratov was investigating how the Russia's central bank had routed the country's hard currency reserves through a tiny offshore firm. He also was involved in investigating the business activities of Boris Berezovsky, a Russian tycoon with close ties to Mr. Yeltsin's family.

Mr. Skuratov first resigned Feb. 1, checking into the Central Clinical Hospital after complaining of heart problems. Then on March 17 he told the upper house of Parliament that his request to resign was forced on him by political opponents.

Newspapers reported that Mr. Yeltsin's chief of staff had threatened Mr. Skuratov with a videotape of him with prostitutes. The tape was later broadcast on state-owned television and the chief of staff was fired.

Defiant, Mr. Skuratov went back to work, and the upper house of Parliament, the Federation Council, voted 142 to 6 to keep him in office. The vote was seen as a major setback for the ailing Mr. Yeltsin, since the chamber is made up of regional leaders who had been sympathetic to the president.

Under the 1993 constitution, the prosecutor is appointed and relieved from his post by the Federation Council on the nomination of the president. However, a separate law says that if the prosecutor is under investigation, he can be suspended, which is the action that Mr. Yeltsin took Friday.

The investigation of Mr. Skuratov centers on who paid for the prostitutes, according to the news agency Interfax,



President Boris Yeltsin watching Yuri Yarov take his seat as new commonwealth executive secretary Friday.

which quoted unnamed sources in an account of the allegations. Interfax said a businessman paid for the prostitutes in exchange for Mr. Skuratov's promise to delay three criminal cases against the businessman.

In a related affair, Mr. Berezovsky has in recent days expressed concern that he may be arrested if he returns to Russia. A plane carrying him from Paris was refused permission to enter Russian airspace Friday and landed instead in Ukraine, Interfax said.

Mr. Berezovsky was ousted Friday from his post as executive secretary of the Commonwealth of Independent

States, the loose grouping of 12 of the 15 republics that comprised the Soviet Union before it collapsed in December 1991, and said he was considering asking for political asylum to avoid arrest. The Associated Press reported from Moscow.

"For nearly 24 hours I have been trying to get permission to fly to Russia," Mr. Berezovsky said. "What's going on is beyond reason."

He has fallen out of favor in recent months and, after a public clash with Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov, Mr. Yeltsin demanded his removal.

[The investigation by Russian pro-

secutors centers on charges that Mr. Berezovsky set up an illegal bugging network to eavesdrop on government officials. The prosecutors have also looked into his business activities and searched his companies' offices.

Mr. Berezovsky, who has denied any wrongdoing, said Thursday that prosecutors planned to arrest him after his removal from the commonwealth post. On Friday he said he would consider asking for political asylum in Ukraine.

[Yuri Yarov, a former Soviet bureaucrat who has served as Mr. Yeltsin's aide, was appointed Friday to succeed Mr. Berezovsky in the commonwealth post.]



PILGRIMAGE — A Filipino woman carrying a carved olive-wood cross as she walked with a group of Christian pilgrims past one of the Stations of the Cross on the Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem on Good Friday.

Handover Imminent For Lockerbie Pair

GLASGOW — A handover by Libya of two suspects wanted by Britain in the 1988 bombing of a PanAm Boeing 747 over Lockerbie, Scotland, is imminent, Secretary of State for Scotland Donald Dewar said Friday.

Libya agreed to turn Abdel Basset Ali Megrahi and Lamen Khalifa Fhimah over to the United Nations by April 6, on charges of planting the bomb which destroyed the jumbo jet, killing 270 people.

The French government has called for a review of security in all tunnels. (AP)

Swedish Bomb Alerts

STOCKHOLM — The fast-food chain McDonald's and a police station near the home of Prime Minister Goran Persson were the targets of a series of bomb alerts, the Swedish police said Friday.

In Malmö, a suspect package was found Friday at a police station not far from the prime minister's home. Late Thursday three McDonald's restaurants in Gävle were evacuated after a caller said a bomb had been placed in one of them. Both alerts proved to be hoaxes. (AFP)

Kurdish Chief Visited

ISTANBUL — A brother and sister of the Kurdish rebel chief Abdullah Ocalan traveled by boat to visit him

Friday on the Turkish prison island where he awaits trial, the Anatolian news agency said.

Turkish special forces captured the Kurdistan Workers Party leader February in Kenya. He faces treason charges carrying the death penalty. (Reuters)

Chirac Visits Tunnel

CHAMONIX, France — President Jacques Chirac visited the Mont Blanc tunnel Friday amid a growing controversy over security measures, after 40 people died in a fire that started aboard a truck transporting flour and margarine.

The French government has called for a review of security in all tunnels. (AP)

For the Record

Germany said Friday it had struck a deal with France to resume the transport of nuclear waste between German atomic power plants and the French reprocessing facility at La Hague, suspended last year after a report that trains carrying waste from France, Germany and Switzerland had been contaminated with radioactivity. (Reuters)

The Canadian-Swedish mining company Boliden Ltd. has announced the reopening of its southern Spanish mine, closed down last year following a major toxic spill on the doorstep of a prized nature reserve, news reports said Friday. (AP)

TRAVEL UPDATE

U.S. and Canada to Spring Forward

On Sunday at 2 A.M. the United States and most of Canada will change from standard time to daylight time. Clocks in both countries will be moved forward one hour. During the summer, eastern daylight time will be four hours behind Greenwich mean time.

Greeks Threaten U.S. Embassy

ATHENS (AFP) — The U.S. Embassy in Athens has received threats since the start of allied air strikes on Yugoslavia, and U.S. citizens in Greece have been warned to stay away from demonstrations against the raids.

No details were given. The threats included U.S. citizens in general, but no private individuals or tourist sites were named.

Iberia Pilots Warn of Longer Strike

MADRID (AP) — Pilots employed by the Spanish airline Iberia on Friday said their strike action that has affected hundreds of flights in the last week could continue beyond the Easter holiday rush, news reports said Friday.

Cancellations and delays affected airports across Spain but hit hardest at Madrid's Barajas Airport, where 21 international and domestic flights were canceled by 7 P.M. Friday.

France decided Friday to step up road checks for speeding and drunken driving, hoping to cut in half the high number of road deaths, 8,437 last year, by 2002. (Reuters)

U.S. Denies Iraqi Report of Air Raids

BAGHDAD — Iraq's military said enemy planes bombed southern Iraq on Friday, destroying two houses in the first U.S.-led air strikes reported in more than two weeks. But the U.S. military denied that American or allied planes had launched any missiles.

The conflicting reports could not be immediately reconciled. The official Iraqi News Agency quoted the Air Defense Command as saying that aircraft, including F-14s, F-16s and Tornados, carried out 18 sorties from Kuwaiti skies and

33 from Saudi skies. The planes targeted residential areas in Afak, the report said, "causing the destruction of two residential houses and the injury of two residents."

Afak is in Al Qadisiya Province, 200 kilometers (135 miles) south of Baghdad, the capital.

But Lieutenant Commander Ernest Duplessis, spokesman at U.S. Central Command headquarters in Tampa, Florida, said, "We did not conduct those strikes." He said U.S. and allied planes flew over southern Iraq Friday but did not launch any missiles.

WEATHER

Europe

	Saturday	Sunday
Algeria	24/75 15/50	26/78 16/61
Amsterdam	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Antwerp	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Athens	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Birmingham	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Bombay	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Boston	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Buenos Aires	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Calcutta	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Cardiff	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Chennai	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Copenhagen	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Dublin	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Edinburgh	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Geneva	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Helsinki	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
London	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Los Angeles	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Madrid	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Moscow	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Mumbai	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Nairobi	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Paris	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Rangoon	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Rio de Janeiro	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Rome	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Sao Paulo	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Seoul	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Shanghai	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Singapore	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Stockholm	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Taipei	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Tokyo	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Washington	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51
Yokohama	17/62 10/51	17/62 10/51

Forecast for Sunday through Tuesday, as provided by AccuWeather.

	Saturday	Sunday	Sunday
High	Low	High	Low
Algeria	24/75	26/78	26/78
Amsterdam	17/62	17/62	17/62
Antwerp	17/62	17/62	17/62
Athens	17/62	17/62	17/62
Birmingham	17/62	17/62	17/62
Bombay	17/62	17/62	17/62
Boston	17/62	17/62	17/62
Buenos Aires	17/62	17/62	17/62
Calcutta	17/62	17/62	17/62
Cardiff	17/62	17/62	17/62
Chennai	17/62	17/62	17/62
Copenhagen	17/62	17/62	17/62
Dublin	17/62	17/62	17/62
Edinburgh	17/62	17/62	17/62
Geneva	17/62	17/62	17/62
Helsinki	17/62	17/62	17/62
London	17/62	17/62	17/62
Los Angeles	17/62	17/62	17/62
Madrid	17/62	17/62	17/62
Moscow	17/62	17/62	17/62
Mumbai	17/62	17/62	17/62
Nairobi	17/62	17/62	17/62
Paris	17/62	17/62	17/62
Rangoon	17/62	17/62	17/62
Rio de Janeiro	17/62	17/62	17/62
Rome	17/62	17/62	17/62
Sao Paulo	17/62	17/62	17/62
Seoul	17/62	17/62	17/62
Shanghai	17/62	17/62	17/62
Singapore	17/62	17/62	17/62
Stockholm	17/62	17/62	17/62
Taipei	17/62	17/62	17/62
Tokyo	17/62	17/62	17/62
Washington	17/62	17/62	17/62
Yokohama	17/62	17/62	17/62

Asia

	Saturday	Sunday	Sunday
High	Low	High	Low
Algeria	24/75	26/78	26/78
Amsterdam	17/62	17/62	17/62
Antwerp	17/62	17/62	17/62
Athens	17/62	17/62	17/62
Birmingham	17/62	17/62	17/62
Bombay	17/62	17/62	17/62
Boston	17/62	17/62	17/62
Buenos Aires	17/62	17/62	17/62
Calcutta	17/62	17/62	17/62
Cardiff	17/62	17/62	17/62
Chennai	17/62	17/62	17/62
Copenhagen	17/62	17/62	17/62
Dublin	17/62	17/62	17/62
Edinburgh	17/62	17/62	17/62
Geneva	17/62	17/62	17/62
Helsinki	17/62	17/62	17/62
London	17/62	17/62	17/62
Los Angeles	17/62	17/62	17/62
Madrid	17/62	17/62	17/62
Moscow	17/62	17/62	17/62
Mumbai	17/62	17/62	17/62
Nairobi	17/62	17/62	17/62
Paris	17/62	17/62	17/62
Rangoon	17/62	17/62	17/62
Rio de Janeiro	17/62	17/62	17/62
Rome	17/62	17/62	17/62
Sao Paulo	17/62	17/62	17/62
Seoul	17/62	17/62	17/62
Shanghai	17/62	17/62	17/62
Singapore	17/62	17/62	17/62
Stockholm	17/62	17/62	17/62
Taipei	17/62	17/62	17/62
Tokyo	17/62	17/62	17/62
Washington	17/62	17/62	17/62
Yokohama	17/62	17/62	17/62

Latin America

	24/75	26/78	26/78
Amsterdam	17/62	17/62	17/62
Antwerp	17/62	17/62	17/62
Athens	17/62	17/62	17/62
Birmingham	17/62	17/62	17/62
Bombay	17/62	17/62	17/62
Boston	17/62	17/62	17/62
Buenos Aires	17/62	17/62	17/62
Calcutta	17/62	17/62	17/62
Cardiff	17/62	17/62	17/62
Chennai	17/62	17/62	17/62
Copenhagen	17/62	17/62	17/62
Dublin	17/62	17/62	17/62
Edinburgh	17/62	17/62	17/62
Geneva	17/62	17/62	17/62
Helsinki	17/62	17/62	17/62
London	17/62	17/62	17/62
Los Angeles	17/62	17/62	17/62
Madrid	17/62	17/62	17/62
Moscow	17/62	17/62	17/62
Mumbai	17/62	17/62	17/62
Nairobi	17/62	17/62	17/62
Paris	17/62	17/62	17/62
Rangoon	17/62	17/62	17/62
Rio de Janeiro	17/62	17/62	17/62
Rome	17/62	17/62	17/62
Sao Paulo	17/62	17/62	17/62
Seoul	17/62	17/62	17/62
Shanghai	17/62	17/62	17/62
Singapore	17/62	17/62	17/62
Stockholm	17/62	17/62	17/62
Taipei	17/62	17/62	17/62
Tokyo	17/62	17/62	17/62
Washington			

U.S. Trip Still On, China Confirms

After 11th-Hour Hesitation, Beijing Says Zhu Will Visit Next Week

BEIJING — After an unusual delay that reflected government concerns over NATO's bombing of Yugoslavia, protracted trade negotiations and attacks on human rights policies, China confirmed Friday that Prime Minister Zhu Rongji will visit the United States next week.

The Foreign Ministry, in a statement carried by state media, announced that Mr. Zhu will visit the United States and Canada from Tuesday to April 20, ending speculation that he might cancel the trip. The U.S. government announced the dates a week ago, but China had held off while senior leaders debated whether he should go.

High-level Chinese officials debated whether to change the timing of the visit. Speculation that Mr. Zhu might cancel intensified Thursday after the Foreign Ministry refused to give the customary one week's notice of a senior leader's travel plans. On Thursday, a spokesman said he was unable to provide any dates, nor did he deny reports that Mr. Zhu might postpone.

China's 11th-hour hesitation stemmed from China's opposition to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's bombing of Yugoslavia and faltering progress in drawn-out negotiations with the United States over China's bid to join the World Trade Organization and over human rights issues.

Hopes for a WTO deal in time for Mr. Zhu's visit were dampened after the top U.S. trade negotiator left Tuesday, saying the two sides were still divided on terms for China's entry into the rules-making body for world trade.

Chinese citizens living in the United States also wrote to Mr. Zhu urging him to cancel his visit because of the Kosovo crisis.

In confirming the trip, the Foreign Ministry spokesman, Sun Yuxi, said Friday that Mr. Zhu will have "an extensive and in-depth exchange of views" with U.S. and Canadian leaders on bilateral relations, as well as "international and regional issues," the official Xinhua press agency reported.

"We are confident that the visit will

enhance the mutual understanding and friendship between the Chinese people and the U.S. and Canadian peoples and further promote relations," Mr. Sun said. Mr. Zhu has already said that he expects the visit to be rocky.

India and China Agree to Talks

India and China will resume talks on their disputed Himalayan border by the end of April or early May, the prime minister's principal adviser, Brajesh Mishra, said Friday, Agence France-Press reported from New Delhi.

Mr. Mishra added that there was also a possibility of Foreign Minister Jaswant Singh's visiting China or holding talks with Chinese leaders at the ASEAN Regional Forum meeting in Singapore in June if the talks were fruitful.

The two countries resumed an official-level dialogue last month with two days of talks in Beijing. Relations became strained early last year after Defense Minister George Fernandes described China as India's main enemy.



FARMERS GO TO TOWN — Thousands of South Korean livestock farmers marching past the National Assembly building in Seoul on Friday to protest a government plan that could lower the subsidies they receive.

Stem Cells Grow Tissues to Order

By Nicholas Wade
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The concept of regenerative medicine — using the body's own stem cells and growth factors to repair tissues — has come closer to reality with a discovery about the special human cells from which all bone and connective tissues are derived.

The discovery bolsters the hope that the cells can in principle be used to repair bone, cartilage, tendon and many other injured or aged tissues. The cells would in many cases be derived from the patient's own bone marrow and thus present no problem of immune rejection.

Biologists at Osiris Therapeutics, a privately held biotechnology company in Baltimore, have shown that the cells, called human mesenchymal stem cells, can be converted into bone cells, cartilage cells, fat cells and the stroma cells in the bone marrow that provide support for blood-forming cells.

The company also has identified special factors that can be used in the laboratory to drive the cells down each of these distinct lineages. Its work is described in Friday's issue of *Science* magazine.

Stem cell biologists independent of the company said the new report represented a promising advance, even though it remains to be seen if the clinical applications will work as hoped.

Dr. Daniel Marshak, the chief scientific officer of Osiris, said the mesenchymal stem cells could be formulated so that, when inserted in the right place in the body, they would change into the appropriate tissue.

Tests in animals show that when the cells are grown on ceramic and put into bone, they turn into bone-forming cells. If grown in a gel and inserted into cartilage, they metamorphose into cartilage cells. If injected into the bloodstream, the cells take up residence in the bone and turn into stroma cells.

There is no way of knowing how soon treatments derived from the techniques will be available, but a clinical trial is now under way with breast cancer patients to explore the cells' stroma-forming abilities. Lack of stroma to support blood-forming cells may be why the bone marrow transplants given to cancer patients after chemotherapy are not always successful.

With Novartis AG, the Swiss pharmaceutical company, Osiris also plans to test in humans the cells' abilities to

form new bone, tendon and cartilage. The cells can also be converted to fat cells, which could prove useful in cosmetic surgery and possibly as material for breast implants.

Dr. Mark Pittenger, who identified the various factors needed to convert the cells into bone, cartilage and fat, said he was now working to change them into heart-muscle cells. People are born with a fixed number of heart-muscle cells, and the heart grows by enlargement of these cells, not by growing more.

"We hope at the least we could prevent some of the scarring after a heart attack by implanting new cells," Dr. Pittenger said.

The human mesenchymal stem cells found in adult bone marrow are derived from the mesoderm, one of the three tissue types of the early embryo and the source of all the body's bone and connective tissue. The adult stem cells evidently retain much, and possibly all, of the mesoderm's magical plasticity, giving the Osiris biologists a wide range of tissue fates to explore for the cells.

Dr. David Anderson of the California Institute of Technology said it was a "very important result" to have trained the stem cells to form different lineages in the laboratory.

POLITICAL

Democrat Gets First Lady's Aid

By Michael Laris
Washington Post Service

NEW YORK — Hillary Rodham Clinton has agreed to appear at a fund-raiser for Representative Nita Lowey, another potential candidate for a Senate seat from New York, in an effort to allay concerns that the first lady's prospective candidacy is disrupting the fund-raising efforts of other Democrats.

Ms. Lowey's aides said Thursday that she expected to raise \$500,000 at a dinner in New York on May 24. (NYT)

Greens Capture California Seat

WASHINGTON — A

California community college teacher who urged voters to rebel against "the machine" of traditional parties has defeated a Democratic heavy-weight to become the first Green Party candidate elected to a state office in America.

Outspent by about 20 to 1, Audie Bock won a special election Tuesday for the California state Assembly. (WP)

North Korea Famine Relief Running Out, UN Aide Says

By Michael Laris
Washington Post Service

BEIJING — The famine ravaging North Korea is worsening, and government food rations will run out completely this month, leaving citizens across the country to forage for "alternative food" like roots, a senior United Nations aid official said Friday.

David Morton, the UN humanitarian coordinator for the nation, said international food donations were feeding children but that there was not enough donated grain for the country's starving adults. The international effort is merely a "holding action," he said.

"It is not solving the problem; it is keeping alive a generation of children," Mr. Morton said after a two-week tour with North Korean officials. "The long-term solution is an economic revival," he said, adding that the country's largely industrial economy needs economic assistance from foreign countries to turn around the humanitarian disaster.

According to some reports, as many as 2 million people have died in the famine since the mid-1990s. Donor nations provided more than 600,000 tons of grain last year but have so far shown little interest in giving general economic assistance to a government seen as a domestic and international menace.

Japan suspended its aid after the government of Kim Jong Il fired a missile over Japanese territory in August. U.S. officials concerned about North Korea's nuclear weapons program and missile sales have en-

couraged South Korea to take a cautious approach in aiding its northern rival.

Problems with the distribution of current aid have also discouraged more ambitious efforts. Refugees charge that food aid is systematically diverted to families of North Korean leaders, and the government keeps the UN out of about 50 counties.

One UN official, Peter Smerdon, was allowed to travel last month to two areas in Hwanghae Province that were previously off limits. What he found were horrendous conditions. Hundreds of people roamed the streets, carrying knapsacks full of belongings and scraps of food. Hospitals were empty because there was no food or supplies.

In one school, Mr. Smerdon asked a teacher to show him which students were of normal height for their age. She found only one girl in the class of proper height. A UN nutrition survey in 1998 found that 62 percent of the country's children had stunted growth.

The World Food Program has made an urgent appeal for beans, oil and sugar to add to the grain that has already been donated. North Korea's public distribution system will run out of food within weeks, Mr. Morton said. The harvest will be completely used up by May and June, he said.

While North Korean leaders attribute the famine to natural disasters, Western officials say the actual cause has been Kim Jong Il's refusal to reform North Korean society after support from the Soviet Union and China dried up earlier this decade.

Farrakhan Is Said to Have Surgery

Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Louis Farrakhan, the leader of the Nation of Islam, underwent emergency surgery this week and is more seriously ill than top organization officials have publicly acknowledged, according to sources at Howard University Hospital in Washington.

Mr. Farrakhan's worsening condition has set off a new wave of anxiety among his followers in the organization he has dominated for the last

20 years, as well as in the wider black community.

Mr. Farrakhan, 65, was flown to Washington from his lakeside home in Michigan on Tuesday night and rushed to Howard University Hospital bleeding and in great pain. After a series of tests, he underwent emergency surgery to administer radiation for a recurrence of prostate cancer, marking the third time he has undergone treatments for the disease since it was diagnosed in 1991, according

to hospital sources.

Nation of Islam officials continued to deny that their leader was gravely ill, as they have since his worsening condition became public last month. "The minister's treatment continues to be successful and his prognosis is excellent," his chief of staff, Leonard Muhammad, said in a statement Wednesday. "He is stable and resting, and we ask all well-wishers to keep Minister Farrakhan in their prayers."



Louis Farrakhan speaking to reporters last year.

Missouri Showdown: Hidden Guns or Not?

By Dirk Johnson
New York Times Service

ST. LOUIS, Missouri — In what both sides of the gun debate are calling a momentous showdown, Missouri will be the first state to let voters decide in a statewide referendum whether to allow people to carry concealed weapons in public.

Proponents of the measure, to be decided next week, have outspent opponents by a ratio of 3 to 1, with the National Rifle Association spending almost all of the money on the efforts to pass the measure, \$2.1 million, with a blitz of television ads, including one featuring a victim of the notorious "South Side Rapist."

The battle has drawn high-profile advocates, including Charlton Heston, the actor and president of the National Rifle Association, and James Brady, the former press secretary who was wounded in the assassination attempt against President Ronald Reagan. And it has pitted law enforcement officials against each other.

More than 40 states allow some people to carry concealed weapons, but in many, permits are rarely issued, and only if applicants demonstrate a need, such as carrying large amounts of cash in their work.

The Missouri measure, which becomes law if passed by a majority of the voters would grant permits to anyone over 21 who has not been convicted of a felony and who takes 12 hours of gun training. But it gives the sheriff in each county the right to deny any application.

In Missouri, rural voters are expected to back the measure strongly, while urban residents, especially blacks, are more skeptical about it.

In St. Louis's North Side neighborhood, which is pierced by sirens and pockmarked with boarded storefronts, 22-year-old Corey Davis, grizzled at the notion of the ballot measure. To Ms. Davis, who is black and once was held up by "an itchy boy with a great big gun," putting more guns on the street would turn some urban neighborhoods "back to the Wild Wild West."

But across the state in rural Hickory County, Sherry Jones, a 43-year-old coffee shop waitress, welcomes the measure, which she believes would simply let law-abiding people protect themselves.

"Why should it be a crime for the rest of us to defend ourselves?" With the vote scheduled at a time when little else is on the ballot in Missouri, the outcome will hinge largely on turnout.

The Missouri Legislature has passed measures allowing concealed weapons, but the bills have been vetoed by Governor Mel Carnahan, a Democrat.

James Baker, the chief lobbyist for the rifle association, said a victory at the ballot box would show broad popular support for gun rights, and could not be dismissed as "somehow buying off a state legislature" by a powerful lobbying group.

Officials for Handgun Control Inc., the group headed by Mr. Brady's wife, Sarah, said the rifle association is desperate to show strength after a series of losses.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

AMSTERDAM

CROSSROADS INTERNATIONAL CHURCH (interdenominational) & Evangelical Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. / Rijksweg 100, Amsterdam 1013 CA, The Netherlands. Tel: 020-641 9812 or 020-6451 033

BERLIN

BERLIN Left Church (Evangelical) Sunday services: 10:30 a.m. / Volte Markt, 10115 Berlin, Germany. Tel: +49 (0)30 34 70 71 75, web: berlin-church.org

FRANKFURT

St. Leonhard, International Catholic Parish, Alte Mainzer Gasse 9, 60311 (near Hauptwache), Mainz in English: Saturday 5 p.m., Sunday: 10 a.m. Tel: 069-253777 or J. Schaefer@mainz-uni.de

PARIS AND SUBURBS

EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH 33, rue des Bains-Paillotes, 92090 Puteaux-Meudon. Services: 9:45 a.m. & 11 a.m. with Sunday School. For info Tel: 01 47 51 29 000 / 47 48 10 20 or: http://www.god-is.com/parisinfo/7352/ International Baptist Fellowship meeting at 49 rue de Lira, Paris 7th, 10:30 Sundays. Call above for info.

SAINT JOSEPH'S CHURCH (Roman Catholic)

Office at Paris La Defense, 8 bd de Neuilly, 92100 Nanterre. Tel: 01 47 28 55 55. Mass: Charles de Gaulle - Ecole

HOPE INTERNATIONAL CHURCH

Office at Paris La Defense, 8 bd de Neuilly, 92100 Nanterre. Tel: 01 47 28 55 55. Mass: Charles de Gaulle - Ecole

CANNES

HOLY TRINITY, rue de Cannes (parked in Cannes), 06100 Cannes. Tel: 04 93 54 01. Graphic art Sunday

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCHES OF EUROPE (Anglican)

PARIS THE AMERICAN CATHEDRAL OF THE HOLY TRINITY, 31-33, rue de Valenciennes, 75009 Paris. Tel: 01 42 33 23 23 or 01 42 33 23 23

CLERMONT-FD (FRANCE)

CHRIST CHURCH (Anglican) 1st & 3rd Sun. 9 a.m. & 11 a.m. (Temple Reforme) 38 04 73 38 41 59

FLORENCE

ST JAMES' CHURCH, Sun. 9 & 11 a.m. in Italian Tel: 055 234 417

ROME

ST PAUL'S WITHIN THE WALLS, Sun. Eucharist 8:30 & 10:30 a.m., Eucharist in Spanish 1 p.m., Via Negoli 58, 00184. Tel: 39 06 488 3039 or 474 3559

KARLSRUHE (GERMANY)

ANGELICAL EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY 1st and 3rd Sunday 5 p.m. in chapel of Lutheran Church, Nothelfer 2-4, 76121 283 79 or 49 721 49 15 59

BRUCKMUEHL (GERMANY)

ANGELICAL-EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY, meets at St. Lukas Johanneskirche, 1st Sun. 11 a.m., 2nd Sun. 10 a.m., 3rd Sun. 2, 23022, Tel: 49 (0) 9246415

MUNICH

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, Sun. Eucharist 9 & 11:45 a.m. (Sun School) Nursery: 9:45 a.m., 9:45 a.m. Munich (Hauptbahnhof) Tel: 49 (0) 89 48185

FRANKFURT

CHRIST THE KING Eucharist Sun 9 8:11 Sunday School Nursery 10:45 Suburban Place for 22 (2222) Frankfurt, Ger. U1,23 Miquel-Alba, Tel: 49 (0) 69 55164

WIESBADEN

ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY Sun. 10 a.m., Frankfurter Str. 3, 65189 Wiesbaden. Tel: 49 (0) 61130674

GENEVA

EMMANUEL CHURCH 1st & 3rd Sun 10 a.m. Eucharist, 2nd & 4th Sun Morning Prayer, 8 rue de Montebello, 1201 Geneva, Switzerland. Tel: 41 (0) 22 320 30 76

BRUSSELS/WATERLOO

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, Sun. 11:15 a.m. 1st Sun. 11:15 a.m., 2nd Sun. 10:30 a.m., 3rd Sun. 10:30 a.m., 4th Sun. 10:30 a.m., 5th Sun. 10:30 a.m., 6th Sun. 10:30 a.m., 7th Sun. 10:30 a.m., 8th Sun. 10:30 a.m., 9th Sun. 10:30 a.m., 10th Sun. 10:30 a.m., 11th Sun. 10:30 a.m., 12th Sun. 10:30 a.m.

DARMSTADT (GERMANY)

ANGELICAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 2nd & 4th Sun. 4 p.m. in Gieselerhaus, Dreilichgasse, Darmstadt-Eberstadt. Tel: 49 (0) 6151 14574

INGOLSTADT (GERMANY)

ANGELICAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 4th Sun. 8 p.m. in Dreilichgasse, Beer-Eberhausen. Tel: 49 (0) 9421 4125

EUROPEAN BAPTIST CONVENTION

BERLIN

U.B.C. BERLIN, Rotherbaum Str. 13, (Sonder), Sunday Bible Study 10:45 worship Service 12 noon, Charles Warford Pastors. Tel: 030-774-4570

BRATISLAVA - SLOVAKIA

U.B.C., The Events, Karlova 64, Audimax 1042, Workshop Sun 10:30 Tel: (07) 715357

BREMEN

U.B.C., Hollenheide, Hermann-Rose-Str. Workshop Sun. 17:30, Pastor telephone: 0421-75548

BUCHAREST

U.B.C., St. Xenopol nr. 2. This is next to Gheorghe Ionescu 11:45-13:15 Tel: Pastor 88 Boves Tel: 350-027521-0472

BUDAPEST

U.B.C., meets at Monks Zsigmond, Gellert, 11-18, 0750 2nd Hungary, Sunday Workshop, Hungary & SS, 11:30 a.m. Mid-week ministries, Pastor J. Levy CallFax: 06173-82728

BULGARIA

U.B.C., World Trade Center 26, Drakon Tower 2nd Floor Study 10-Workshop 11 James Dale Pastor Tel: 971 - 2102

DARMSTADT - GERMANY

U.B.C., Wilhelm-Luepker Str 104, Darmstadt-Gieselerhaus, Bible Study Sun. 16:00, Tel: (0611) 41-0505

FRANKFURT

INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, Ev. Protestantische Gemeinde, Sodewitz, 11-18, 0750 2nd Hungary, Sunday Workshop, Hungary & SS, 11:30 a.m. Mid-week ministries, Pastor J. Levy CallFax: 06173-82728

HOLLAND

TRINITY INTERNATIONAL invites you to a Christ centered fellowship. Services 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. (Blenckamp 54, Wassenaar 020-577-0204

NICE - FRANCE

U.B.C., 13 rue Vernier, English service, Sunday evening 18:30, pastor Roy Miller - Tel: (04 93) 24 92 61

ST PAUL DE VENCE - FRANCE

St Paul de Vence-France U.B.C. Espace St Clair Level 10 Bible Study Sun 9:30 - Workshop Sun 10:45 Tel 04 93 24 92 61

PRAGUE

LB, FELLOWSHIP, Vinohradska 4 68, Prague 3 Sun 11:00 Tel: (02) 311 7974

ZURICH - SWITZERLAND

U.B.C. at Zurich, Gieselerhaus 31, 8003 Ruschlikon, Workshop Services Sunday mornings 10:30 Tel: 1-601018

SUMMER CONFERENCE

FAMILY-WIDE SUMMER ASSEMBLY in Interlaken Switzerland July 3-8, 1999. Contact: Philip Yancey & Dorian Lutz. Tel: 49 611 941 0505, abc@compuserve.com

ASSOCIATION OF INT'L CHURCHES

GENEVA

EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH 20 rue Verdun Sunday worship 8:30 in German 11:00 in English. Tel: (022) 310 50 89

PARIS

AMERICAN CHURCH IN PARIS Workshop 11:00 a.m. 55 Quai d'Orsay, Paris 7th. Bus 63 at metro Alma-Marcoussu or Invalides

ZURICH

INTERNATIONAL Protestant Church English speaking, worship service, Sunday School & Nursery, Sundays 11:00am Schwanengasse 25 Tel: (0) 262525

DO YOU LIVE IN THE U.K.?

• Subscribe and SAVE up to 53% off the cover price.
• Also available: PAY MONTHLY by easy, low cost, direct debit.

HAND DELIVERY IN CENTRAL & GREATER LONDON & PARTS OF THE SOUTH EAST.
Personal subscriptions are available throughout the UK on the day after publication.

Herald Tribune

For more information about easy ordering and availability of hand delivery CALL our Subscriber Customer Service Department: TOLL FREE 0800 4 448 7827 (0800 4 IHT SUBS) or Fax 0171 987 3459
E-mail: subs@iht.com
Internet: http://www.iht.com

PAYMENT BY MONTHLY DIRECT DEBIT
☐ YES, I'd like to subscribe and have my bank account debited monthly by £19. Please start my subscription and send me a bank form to arrange my payment.

PAYMENT BY CHECK OR CREDIT CARD
☐ YES, I'd like to subscribe and pay for the following term:
☐ 12 months (+ 2 months free): £233
(Savings off cover price: 36%)
☐ Special, 2-month trial subscription: £24
(Savings off cover price: 53%)
☐ My check is enclosed (payable to the IHT)
☐ Charge my: ☐ Access ☐ Amex ☐ Diners ☐ Eurocard ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa
Credit card charges will be made in French Francs at current exchange rates.

Card No: _____ Exp: _____

Signature: _____
Please start delivery and send invoice.
Family Name: _____
First Name: _____
Job Title: _____
Mailing Address: ☐ Home ☐ Business _____
City: _____ Code: _____
Telephone: _____
E-Mail Address: _____

Your VAT No (Business orders only) (H/T VAT No 747 320 21 26)
I got this copy of the IHT at ☐ kiosk ☐ hotel ☐ airline ☐ other UK 18
☐ I do not wish to receive information from other companies.
This offer expires on December 31, 1999 and is AVAILABLE FOR NEW SUBSCRIBERS ONLY.
Return your completed coupon to:
Delphine Prinselaar, International Herald Tribune
40 Marsh Wall, London E14 9TP.
Fax: 0171 987 3459 E-Mail: subs@iht.com

READERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES CAN SUBSCRIBE BY CALLING:
EUROPE, MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA
Tel: +33 1 41 43 93 61 Fax: +33 1

Is Time Running Out? / Temporary Victories

In the Misery of Vukovar Lies an Awful Model for Postwar Kosovo

By Blaine Harden
New York Times Service

VUKOVAR, Croatia — This ruined city beside the Danube is as good a place as any to meditate on the years of misery and score-settling that may lie ahead in Kosovo when the Serbian campaign there has ended.

Nearly eight and a half years ago, in the first great atrocity of his asserted Yugoslav wars, forces commanded by Slobodan Milosevic destroyed Vukovar to "liberate" it for the Serbs. First, his forces shelled and bombed the town of 50,000 into rubble over the course of three months.

When Croatian residents finally surrendered, hundreds of exhausted fighters, many of them badly wounded and crowded into a hospital, were taken outside of town, shot and buried in mass graves.

Then, as in Kosovo now, the Serbian offensive was dressed up in nationalist oratory. After conquering this city in the fall of 1991, Serbian generals bused in the world's press, showed off scores of mutilated bodies, served lunch in a hotel perforated with artillery shells and blamed the ghastly mess on the Croats.

"I would ask you to see the fate of Vukovar as

the reincarnation of fascism," a colonel explained at the lunch.

This style of savage ethnic war and stone-age public relations later shifted to Bosnia and is now apparently under way in Kosovo.

Mass graves are still being dug up here. Vacant lots and farmland are still seeded with land mines. Inside the city, trees and shrubbery are growing up through the ruins of thousands of houses.

Unemployment approaches 90 percent. Nearly every young person with a marketable skill has fled Vukovar, once a prosperous, architecturally significant and ethnically mixed city where marriage between Serbs and Croats was common.

The Serbs who live here, squeezed by ethnic hostility and economic hardship, are now fleeing Vukovar in droves. Efforts by European nations to halt the Serbs' exodus and preside over ethnic reintegration of the town are, for the most part, failing.

"First you have war, and then you cannot re-establish the conditions for a normal society," said Nikolai Rastvorinsky, a Russian who is deputy director of the Vukovar office for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

He said about 47,000 Serbs have moved away from the Vukovar area since 1996.

Mr. Milosevic's victory in Vukovar was as temporary as it was destructive. In this way, it fits into his pattern of starting off strong in ethnic war but quickly losing all conquered territories.

Yet, by the measure that he seems to care most about, Vukovar-style losses have been valuable. They allowed him to fire up his propaganda machine in Belgrade, enflame nationalist sentiment inside Serbia and keep his job.

The war in Kosovo, which for the past week has pitted Mr. Milosevic against the military might of the Western world, seems to fit this pattern of conflicts that are hugely destructive and militarily untenable but politically useful.

As headlines and television cameras chase new ethnic violence, the long-term human costs of his win-by-losing wars are easy to overlook. But Vukovar, perhaps more than any single city in what used to be Yugoslavia, testifies to the suffering, poverty and ethnic resentment that seem certain to percolate for years in the lives of those who do not die in Mr. Milosevic's wars.

This city was returned in January 1998 to the control of Croats.

The security organization supervises a police force here that is split almost evenly between Serbian and Croatian officers. It has managed to stop ethnic killing.

The Croatian government and the European Union are rebuilding houses, erecting street lights and stringing lines for electricity and phones.

But the sorting out of political control, the tentative beginnings of reconstruction and the departure of wild-eyed young men with automatic weapons have not come close to making Vukovar livable.

The city is ugly beyond imagining, with rotting mattresses and rain-blackened lampshades and soggy piles of clothing still resting in eight-year-old heaps inside shell-shattered houses that line nearly every street. Everywhere one turns there are brick walls perforated by artillery shells that cut holes the size of small cars. It is difficult to find a surface that is not pockmarked with the spray of shrapnel from mortars and bombs.

The only institutions that function — hospitals, churches, hotels, markets — are ones that have been rebuilt, almost always with money from the Croatian government or countries in Europe.

Residents of Vukovar, Serbs and Croats alike, agreed in interviews that it is difficult to find a good reason for living in this graveyard of a city. "Whoever can leave leaves, because the economy is horrible," said Nikola, 21, a Serb who would not give his last name. "Serbs also leave

because they are afraid. I am planning to go to Canada as soon as I can find a way."

Before the war, Vukovar was one of the most ethnically integrated cities in Croatia; about a third Croat, a third Serb and the rest a mix of other ethnic groups.

But the relative harmony that prevailed here since World War II was upset in the late 1980s by an outburst of Croatian nationalism. Just as ethnic Albanians in Kosovo pressed the Serbian minority in that province of Serbia in the 1980s, so did Croats here frighten and anger the Serbian minority here in what was then a republic in the Yugoslav Federation.

In both cases, Mr. Milosevic used that fear to whip up nationalist anger inside Serbia and solidify his political power. His forces then responded to what was going on — in Vukovar just as in Kosovo — in a manner vastly out of proportion to the threat against Serbs.

The fall of Vukovar, though, was not simply a matter of Serbian aggression. Like nearly everything in the Yugoslav wars, it was more complicated, more devious than that. President Franjo Tudjman of Croatia chose not to defend the city, apparently calculating that the destruction of such a photogenic community would win international sympathy for his country.

Why Lessons of Bosnia Don't Apply in Kosovo

Milosevic, for One, Had Less at Stake in '95

By David Rohde
New York Times Service

One perception driving the Clinton administration's strategy of carrying out punishing NATO air strikes against Slobodan Milosevic is the idea that the only language he understands is force.

In 1995, this view goes, a NATO bombing campaign compelled Mr. Milosevic and his Bosnian Serb allies to end the three-year war in Bosnia. Another round of air strikes might therefore break the will of the Yugoslav leadership and force Mr. Milosevic to halt his attacks on Kosovo Albanians.

But Bosnia and Kosovo are very different. And it was not NATO bombing alone, but a mix of politics, diplomacy and military pressure that brought Mr. Milosevic to the negotiating table over Bosnia.

"The only things these conflicts have in common is that they're in the same geographic area," said Anthony Cordesman of the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington. "What was going on in Bosnia was completely different politically, historically and emotionally from what is going on in Kosovo."

Administration officials said that they did take the differences into account. Where they miscalculated, they said, was in predicting Mr. Milosevic's behavior. "I don't think people, because most of us are human, expected it to be quite as brutal as this," said a Pentagon planner, who requested anonymity.

NATO did unleash a two-week bombing campaign against the Bosnian Serbs in August and September 1995 that played a pivotal role in bringing peace to the region, experts said. But it was in conjunction with a successful Croatian Army offensive in western Bosnia that bit into Bosnian Serb holdings, and it was preceded by months of diplomatic negotiations with Mr. Milosevic.

When the NATO strikes began in Bosnia, Mr. Milosevic had already been saying that he was ready to make peace. The problem, Mr. Milosevic had told Western diplomats, was the recalcitrance of the Bosnian Serb leaders Radovan Karadzic and General Ratko Mladic.

On the first day of the 1995 air strikes, Mr. Milosevic won a key concession from Mr. Karadzic — the right to represent the Bosnian Serbs at peace talks.

The strikes then continued for two more weeks until the Bosnian Serbs, in particular General Mladic, the commander of the Bosnian Serb Army, agreed to withdraw their heavy weapons from around Sarajevo.

Then, a joint offensive by Bosnian Muslim and Croatian forces dramatically shifted the distribution of key Bosnian territory, making it easier for negotiators to draw the complex maps that eventually divided the country into a Bosnian Serb republic and a Muslim-Croatian Federation loosely united under joint federal institutions.

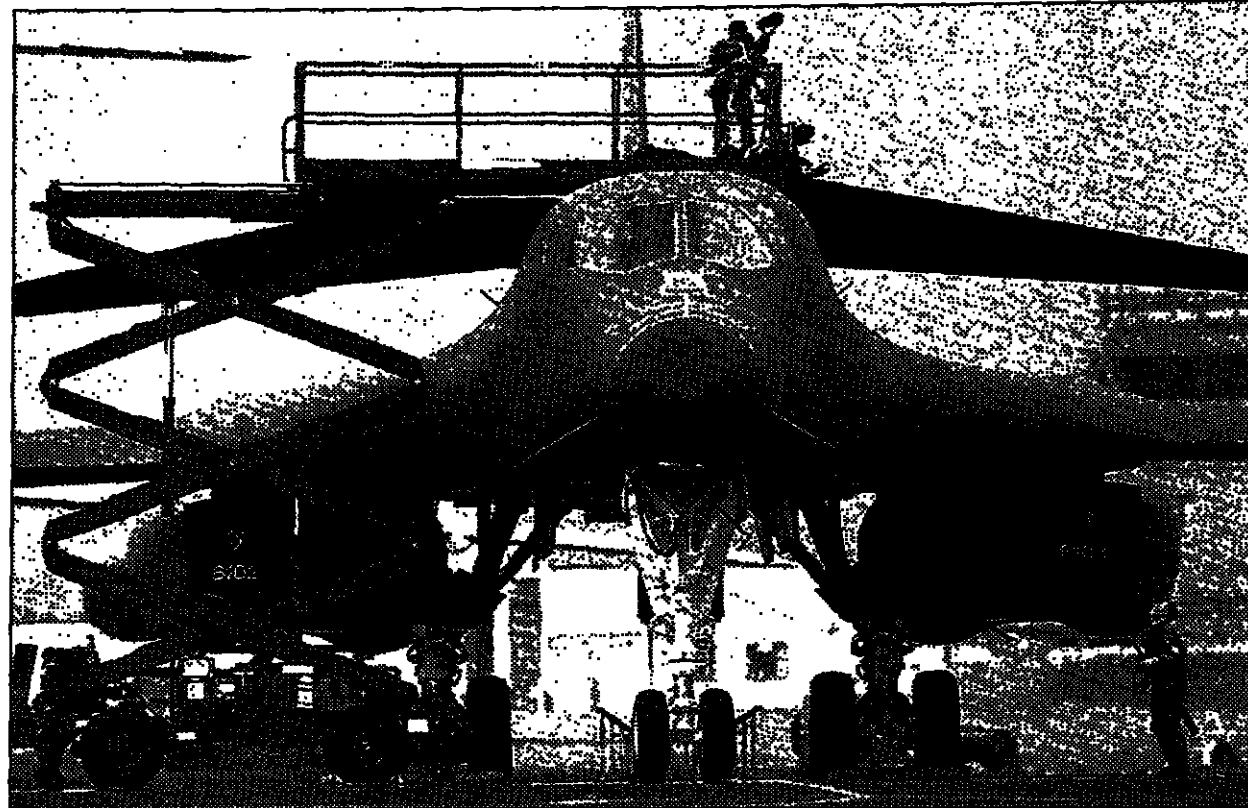
Robert Pape, a Dartmouth College professor and expert on air power, said that unlike the situation the Serbs face today in Kosovo, actual or threatened NATO bombing in 1995 was backed by a credible threat from ground troops. "In Bosnia, the air power and the Croatian and Muslim ground forces were working as a hammer and anvil," he said. "Right now, there is only a hammer."

Another difference is the pressure now on the alliance to succeed before Mr. Milosevic's forces sweep a majority of the 1.8 million ethnic Albanians out of Kosovo.

Kosovo also represents far more to Mr. Milosevic than the Serb-controlled chunks of Bosnia and Croatia did. When some of those lands were lost in 1995, Mr. Milosevic had little to fear from opponents in his power base in Serbia proper, where few people were prepared to die or suffer on behalf of Bosnian or Croatian Serbs. But Serbs view Kosovo as the birthplace of the Serbian nation.

Mr. Milosevic rose to power by supporting the cause of Kosovo's Serbian minority. He has apparently concluded that it would be politically fatal to relinquish it — and, if so, then only in a destructive fight with NATO.

That has left the Clinton administration scrambling. "From beginning to end, Mr. Milosevic was seen as someone who would negotiate in terms of brinkmanship," Mr. Cordesman said. "It is patently obvious that we did not plan for this."



U.S. ground crew at a base in Fairford, England, making final checks on a B1 bomber Friday before takeoff.

KOSOVO: Alarm Over Albanians Who Didn't or Couldn't Flee

Continued from Page 1

troops separated men and teenage boys from their families, apparently to be executed or relocated to one of three detention camps. The existence of such camps has not been independently confirmed.

"In many respects, the 150,000 refugees who have left Kosovo over the past week are the lucky ones," said a NATO spokesman, Jamie Shea. "The vast majority left behind face an unbelievably miserable situation. There are tens of thousands of internally displaced Kosovars who are living in woods and on mountain slopes. They have no food, no water and no shelter."

The Clinton administration said it was considering a request by ethnic Albanian insurgents for aidrops of relief supplies inside Kosovo. After speaking by phone with Hashim Thaqi, a leader of the Kosovo Liberation Army, the State Department spokesman, James Rubin, said, "They clearly are looking for human-

itarian support, including aidrops."

Mr. Rubin said the request was under consideration by an interagency group that includes the Defense Department but that major obstacles must be overcome. A senior administration official said later, "We haven't made any decision to do it."

More than 164,000 people have been forced from Kosovo since March 24 — when the North Atlantic Treaty Organization began its air offensive against Yugoslav military targets — as part of what Western officials charge is a deliberate effort by the Belgrade government to alter the ethnic makeup of the province. Before the purge, ethnic Albanians outnumbered Serbs 9 to 1 in the province of 1.8 million people.

Officials of a United Nations relief agency described scenes at the border between Kosovo and Macedonia as "reminiscent of the last days of World War II when Europe was awash with refugees," an agency bulletin said. In Macedonia, women, children and

elderly men wandered around with their few remaining possessions, "many of them deeply traumatized," the report said.

"The people of Kosovo are now subject to the worst violations of body and soul that can be described," said Carol Bellamy, the director of Unicef. "All of this is happening without humanitarian workers to alleviate the suffering."

Catherine Bertini, executive director of the UN World Food Program, noted that the last food rations in Kosovo were distributed March 23, just before relief workers left the province only hours ahead of the first NATO air strikes. "Within 7 to 10 days, those people may be malnourished and starving," she said. "And it is impossible to reach them at this time."

The policy pursued by Yugoslav Army troops and Serbian paramilitary units since March 20 has been to cut off all major channels of food supplies to Kosovo's remaining ethnic Albanian population.

Indignation, Anxiety and Wry Humor In Belgrade

By Steven Erlanger
New York Times Service

BELGRADE — It was not especially surprising that Serbian state television would show the movie "Wag the Dog" or even "Apocalypse Now" in an effort to compare NATO's intervention in Kosovo to another Vietnam.

But it did come as something of a shock here, where President Slobodan Milosevic has widespread and undisputed powers, to see state television broadcasting parts of the Charlie Chaplin film, "The Great Dictator."

Concerns were soon allayed, however, when the newscast that followed the film compared President Bill Clinton to Hitler and NATO to the Nazis, who bombed Belgrade in 1941.

While the Yugoslav government is rationing fuel, state television is having no difficulty finding ample supplies of incendiary language.

NATO and its members, by order of the Information Ministry, are regularly referred to as "NATO aggressors," "beasts," "criminals," "villains," "thugs," "fascist legions" and "hordes of murderers."

Serbian citizens and officials widely complain of being demonized by the Western media, as if they are entirely evil and are simply committing unspeakable atrocities because they cannot help themselves.

On the other hand, Serbian television has hardly sanctified President Clinton, who is variously called "Bill Hitler" or "Adolf Clinton" — or sometimes, for simplicity's sake, simply "Fuchrer."

Mr. Clinton has also been given

choice epithets like "the American pimp," "war criminal," "scoundrel" and most elaborately, "saxophone player, criminal and murderer."

Belgrade residents have become frantic about NATO plans to extend its bombings to government and military buildings downtown, even as two nights have gone by without such bombings.

No one knows whether NATO really

means to bomb the heavily populated downtown, or whether heavy cloud cover has spared them.

Misko, a denizen of the Ipanema cafe downtown, says he lives near the Defense Ministry and can barely keep down his food. "We should all go to Benicula and wait for the year 2000," he said, noting in the next moment that the government has banned all men from the ages of 18 to 60 from leaving the country during this state of war.

"I love going to Italy," said another

patron, Alexander, 37 years old. "I love the light, the food, everything. In a way," he said, "it's our culture, too."

But the war is isolating Belgrade and the Serbs. Independent radio and television stations are being shut down, all flights into and out of the country have halted and most foreigners have fled. "All of us will end up in Jagodina," Alexander said, a town in central Serbia synonymous with provincial tedium.

Dragana says she always imagined a life abroad. But now, she says, she feels "more and more Serb," held to the land here. "I can't leave my parents now or our people," she said. "I feel like a hostage. But in a way, I don't mind. I have no choice."

Serbs are an ironic race. In a reference to the downed F-117A Stealth fighter, one placard at a music rally read: "The only good American is an invisible American." A graffiti on a wall said: "Columbus — damn your curiosity!"

And a new billboard, near the Hyatt and Intercontinental hotels where many journalists are staying, shows the target symbol and the words: "Stop the Bombs. Just Do It."

Milan called to say hello and described

his life in the shelters, and was soon in

tears. His 16-month-old daughter, Dushanka, has just begun to talk. "Some of the first words she's said have been 'sire' and 'bomb,'" he said, his voice cracking.

"What kind of madness is this?"

He knows that the ethnic Albanians of

Kosovo are going through worse trials.

"I can see them," he said. "But when

you're under attack, when you're at war,

your world gets very small. There's not

always room for everyone else."

THAT WOMAN By Richard Silvestri

ACROSS	1 Unkind nickname	6 "Hey —" (1963 pop hit)	11 Scrap	19 Word from a bird	20 Matching felony?	21 Decathlete's need	22 Shred (ten)	23 Angel seeker?	25 Undo	26 Plane section	27 Overindulge	28 Urban alligator's home, they say	30 Without qualification	32 He wrote "The Miser"	35 Category	36 Slight amount	37 Emulates Crosby	38 Rid of the superfluous	39 Murnured subtly	41 Smoker or sleeper	42 Blue Grotto (city)	43 Johnny —	47 Unaffiliated record company	49 Criminal charge	50 Radial need	51 Something to pick	52 Geometric combining form	53 Chief	54 Bottom bottom line?	59 Photographers' concerns	61 Movie bags	62 Mavis	63 Complaints sotto voce	65 Second to none	66 Warm candy	67 Have an inspiration?	68 Cappuccino cousin	69 Norman native	70 Detect Dan's colleague?	72 + or - item	73 Thicken	75 "You Only Live Twice"	76 scriptwriter	78 Get off the fence	79 Deli order	80 Lyrical lines	81 Undead in the water?	87 Periodic of song	88 Fine furs	90 Before curfew	91 Exorcise	93 Concerto movement	94 Take out membership	95 Tied up at the mortis	96 Sluggish souvenir	98 Opposite of dimin.	99 Third of a Latin	100 Bumper sticker	101 Centennial prefix	103 If 50% survives the heat, then	109 Natural impulse	110 Taster	111 Digger of early TV's "The Life of Riley"	112 Stand for Steen	113 "Chin down..."	114 In business, when the English call English	115 Where living is expressionless	DOWN	1 ABC and NBC overseer	2 A patient may say it	3 Sowing site	4 Director's loose of old westerns	5 Plenty	6 Word processing command	7 Compass drawing	8 Canteen gyp	9 Bungle	10 Roof sight	11 Toot	12 Serve sake, e.g.	13 Fatima's husband	14 Truck's approval	15 Sick on	16 The plume that's mightier than the sword?	18 Fine furs	17 Computer line	18 European air hub	24 Anatomical sac	28 "Beau Geste" author	31 Schlep	32 Thirteenth-century starter	33 Rue Morgue murderer	34 Kin to a lungfish?	35 Singehand	38 It's human	39 Says the rosary	39 Acts skittish	40 Defense mechanism	43 Warm-up	44 Resort lake	46 "The Divine Miss M"	48 Set up for service	51 Master artist's studio	53 Land in two pieces	54 Needle point?	55 Infamous group	56 VCR feature	57 Eva Duarte, after marriage	58 Seeders make it	60 Rat	63 Bungle	64 Like some beds of old westerns	65 Smith or Page	66 Lacquer ingredient	69 60's dance	82 In addition	94 Destroy by degree	95 Busts into tears	96 "Leaving Las Vegas" star	97 Kibbutz dance	98 Dirty deposit	102 Rustlers' rival	104 Roman law	105 Spring training state: Abbot	106 "— Reso" (1962 hit)	107 Cartoon canine	108 Underbanded
--------	-------------------	--------------------------	----------	---------------------	---------------------	----------------------	----------------	------------------	---------	------------------	----------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------	-------------	------------------	--------------------	---------------------------	--------------------	----------------------	-----------------------	-------------	--------------------------------	--------------------	----------------	----------------------	-----------------------------	----------	------------------------	----------------------------	---------------	----------	--------------------------	-------------------	---------------	-------------------------	----------------------	------------------	----------------------------	----------------	------------	--------------------------	-----------------	----------------------	---------------	------------------	-------------------------	---------------------	--------------	------------------	-------------	----------------------	------------------------	--------------------------	----------------------	-----------------------	---------------------	--------------------	-----------------------	------------------------------------	---------------------	------------	--	---------------------	--------------------	--	------------------------------------	------	------------------------	------------------------	---------------	------------------------------------	----------	---------------------------	-------------------	---------------	----------	---------------	---------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	------------	--	--------------	------------------	---------------------	-------------------	------------------------	-----------	-------------------------------	------------------------	-----------------------	--------------	---------------	--------------------	------------------	----------------------	------------	----------------	------------------------	-----------------------	---------------------------	-----------------------	------------------	-------------------	----------------	-------------------------------	--------------------	--------	-----------	-----------------------------------	------------------	-----------------------	---------------	----------------	----------------------	---------------------	-----------------------------	------------------	------------------	---------------------	---------------	----------------------------------	-------------------------	--------------------	-----------------

© New York Times/Edited by Will Shortz.

Solution to Puzzle of March 27-28

ACROSS
1 UNKIND
6 HEY
11 SCRAP
19 BIRD
20 MATCHING
21 DECATHLETE
22 SHRED
23 ANGEL
25 UNDO
26 PLANE
27 OVERINDULGE
28 ALLIGATOR
30 WITHOUT
32 THE MISER
35 CATEGORY
36 SLIGHT
37 EMULATES
38 RID
39 MURNURED
41 SMOKER
42 GROTTOS
43 JOHNNY
47 UNAFFILIATED
49 CRIMINAL
50 RADIAL
51 SOMETHING
52 COMBINING
53 CHIEF
54 BOTTOM
59 PHOTOGRAPHERS
61 MOVIE
62 MAVIS
63 COMPLAINTS
65 SECOND
66 CANDY
67 INSPIRATION
68 CAPPUCCINO
69 NORMAN
70 DETECTIVE
72 PLUS OR MINUS
73 THICKEN
75 TWICE
76 SCRIPTWRITER
78 FENCE
79 DELI
80 LYRICAL
81 UNDEAD
87 PERIODIC
88 FINE
90 BEFORE
91 EXORCISE
93 CONCERTO
94 TAKE
95 TIED
96 SLUGGISH
98 OPPOSITE
99 THIRD
100 BUMPER
101 CENTENNIAL
103 IF
109 NATURAL
110 TASTER
111 DIGGER
112 STAND
113 CHIN
114 IN
115 WHERE
DOWN
1 ABC
2 A
3 SOWING
4 DIRECTOR
5 PLENTY
6 WORD
7 COMPASS
8 CANTEEN
9 BUNGLE
10 ROOF
11 TOOT
12 SERVE
13 FATIMA
14 TRUCK
15 SICK
16 PLUME
18 FINE
17 COMPUTER
18 EUROPEAN
24 ANATOMICAL
28 BEAU
31 SCHLEP
32 THIRTEENTH
33 RUE
34 KIN
35 SINGE
38 HUMAN
39 ROSARY
39 SKITTISH
40 DEFENSE
43 WARM
44 RESORT
46 DIVINE
48 SERVICE
51 MASTER
53 TWO
54 NEEDLE
55 INFAMOUS
56 VCR
57 EVA
58 SEEDERS
60 RAT
63 BUNGLE
64 BEDS
65 SMITH
66 LACQUER
69 DANCE
82 IN
94 DESTROY
95 TEARS
96 LAS
97 KIBBUTZ
98 DIRTY
102 RUSTLERS
104 ROMAN
105 SPRING
106 RESO
107 CARTOON
108 UNDERBAND

K.S.D. 1.50

Is Time Running Out?/New Pressures on Fragile Balkan States

Western Europe Fears An Influx of Kosovars

Pressure by Job-Seekers Could Be Explosive

By Roger Cohen
New York Times Service

BERLIN — The huge numbers of ethnic Albanians fleeing Kosovo are raising acute concerns in Western European countries about the potential arrival of tens of thousands of refugees in societies already strained by high unemployment, sluggish growth and simmering resentment of foreigners.

Fearing a politically explosive influx, Germany said Thursday that Kosovo's Albanian outcasts should remain in the Balkans and stay outside "Western or Northern Europe."

Germany is particularly concerned. More than 4 million people, or more than 10 percent of the work force, is jobless, and 350,000 refugees poured in from Bosnia during the 1992-1995 war. But France and Italy face similar problems and appear equally determined to ensure that the refugees do not move west.

Over time, aid officials said, the issue could drive a wedge between the United States and its European NATO partners because it illustrates, in blunt form, how broadly destabilizing the conflict is on the European continent while America has a large buffer, the Atlantic Ocean.

"We believe the refugees should remain as close to Kosovo as possible," the deputy foreign minister of Germany, Gerd Grottel, said Thursday during a brief visit to the Macedonian capital, Skopje. "Our assumption is that we will soon achieve our political goal and the refugees will be able to return to Kosovo."

It was not clear, given the state of the conflict, what led Mr. Grottel to that assumption. He added that "acceptance of the refugees into Western or Northern Europe" would send "a completely false signal."

The implications of a policy of zero acceptance of refugees appeared fraught

with danger for the Balkans. It will mean that fragile states, with scant resources and, in the case of Macedonia, a tenuous balance of ethnic groups, will be subjected to enormous new social pressures if the refugees are unable to return soon.

Yet accepting refugees also involves political risk. Austria, a country of just over 8 million people that took in 70,000 refugees during the Bosnian war, has said it will accept refugees from Kosovo. But on Thursday the party of Jörg Haider, a far-right politician who has consistently campaigned against foreigners and immigrants, attacked the government's decision, saying Austria had neither space nor ability to cope with the influx.

Mr. Verheugen's statement came as Joschka Fischer, the German foreign minister, on Thursday chaired a hastily convened conference in Bonn on the plight of the refugees. After talks with other European ministers and with Sadako Ogata, the UN high commissioner for refugees, Mr. Fischer suggested that Western policy should consist of sending money and food to the Balkans to sustain the refugees there.

Keeping the refugees close to Kosovo also helps to underpin statements by ministers in NATO governments that the ethnic Albanians will eventually go home.

The policy outlined at the conference Thursday was consistent with that of the center-left government of Chancellor Gerhard Schröder, which has tried, under fierce attack from the right, to make German citizenship available to more of the 7 million foreigners living here, but has been intransigent in saying that there is no room for new arrivals.

"We have reached the limits, the point where we have to say we cannot bear any more," Otto Schily, the interior minister, said last year. "The majority of Germans agree with me: zero immigration for now. The burden has become too great."



A Yugoslav policeman checking the documents of ethnic Albanians fleeing the Kosovo town of Pec on Friday.

NATO: Milosevic Tries to Rid Kosovo of Its People, Clinton Says

Continued from Page 1

refugees, as he has insisted must be done, Mr. Clinton said that "some sort of security arrangement" would be needed, including at least elements of the Rambouillet peace accord, backed by "some sort of international force."

Asked yet again whether ground troops might have to be introduced, Mr. Clinton denied any such plan even while appearing to leave the door ajar.

"I still believe that we have a good possibility of achieving our mission with the means that we have deployed," he said.

In Brussels, North Atlantic Treaty Organization officials forcefully contended that their 10-day-old campaign of air strikes had begun to take a toll on the Yugoslav Army and paramilitary forces directly implicated in the vast involuntary migration.

Despite concern expressed in some circles that time may be running out for NATO's military effort, alliance officials expressed confidence in their systematic plan and noted that allied reinforcements were on the way.

The United States has ordered 13 more F-117A Stealth fighter-bombers to Italy. A U.S. Navy destroyer and a cruiser entered the Mediterranean on Thursday loaded with cruise missiles. The U.S. aircraft carrier Theodore Roosevelt was expected to arrive during the weekend, bringing with it some 75 aircraft.

Air Commodore David Wilby of Britain told reporters in Brussels that Yugoslav paramilitary forces were continuing "ethnic cleansing" in a broad triangular region southwest of the provincial capital, Pristina, but that there were indications that some tanks were running out of fuel.

"We have, despite the weather, pressed home attacks against fielded forces," he said. Reports from inside Serbia indicated that the bombing continued on Friday.

Meantime, these other military and political developments were reported: •The fate of the three U.S. Army soldiers held by the Yugoslav authorities after being captured along the Serbian

border with Macedonia remained unclear. After saying Thursday that the three men would face a military trial, various reports from Belgrade indicated that the government was conducting an inquiry in private that could yield further developments during the weekend.

Yugoslavia's information minister was quoted as saying that the three men would not be harmed, and there were other unconfirmed reports that they could have any court sentence suspended after the conflict between NATO and Belgrade was resolved.

In Belgrade, President Milosevic asked Russia for military aid in a meeting with Russian Parliament members, according to Tanjug, the Yugoslav news agency. Belgrade's defense minister said he was prepared to give Moscow pieces of the U.S. Stealth fighter downed last Saturday.

NATO indicated that it did not favor parachuting food and supplies to Kosovars trapped inside the Pagarusa valley because it feared the supplies would fall into the hands of the Yugoslav military units that have trapped the refugees.

Mr. Shea, the NATO spokesman, did not dispute reports that NATO was considering the creation of an eventual protectorate in Kosovo, saying, "Refugees return only when they are protected."

Britain's defense minister said he had evidence showing that Mr. Milosevic was plotting a coup in Montenegro, a republic of the Yugoslav federation that currently has an anti-Milosevic government.

Commodore Wilby contended that the Kosovo Liberation Army, the rebel force fighting Belgrade troops, "has not been defeated" and was recruiting new members.

A question on the mind of many analysts was whether time was rapidly running out for NATO, for U.S. policy and for fleeing Kosovars. The New York Times quoted a senior Pentagon official as saying that Mr. Milosevic's forces appeared to be wrapping up a campaign to carve out a Serbian enclave in Kosovo, having cornered the last remnants of the Kosovo rebel forces.

"He's basically got every objective he wanted," the official said, citing intelligence reports.

U.S. and allied officials have refused to estimate the duration of the bombing campaign, but they have stressed that it was likely to go on for some time. One senior policymaker told The Washington Post, however, that it would certainly last less than six months.

"We believe we have identified Milosevic's acceptable threshold of pain, and we think we know how to reach it," he said.

The bombing, however, has angered Russia, marginalized the UN and complicated planning for NATO's 50th anniversary meeting later this month. In addition, analysts and diplomats said, it is stoking tensions in Bosnia.

A U.S. official said Mr. Clinton and his advisers were aware of those considerations and were constantly reviewing other options but have found no better course. He said every alternative offered by critics had been considered and rejected as "fatally flawed" in one way or another.

On Friday, Mr. Shea estimated that 36,500 refugees had crossed Kosovo's various borders in the previous 24 hours, up from 21,000 the day before. Most entered Macedonia, he said, while a larger number entered Albania and relatively fewer reached Montenegro. In the past year of conflict, he said, the number of displaced Kosovars who have departed or been driven from their homes has reached 634,000, or one-third of the Kosovo population of 1.9 million.

The day before, General Wesley Clark, NATO's commander, told journalists: "Those of us who've grown up in liberal democracies have a hard time truly appreciating what's happening right now in Kosovo. It's a grim combination of terror and ethnic cleansing on a vast scale. It's being perpetrated largely against defenseless civilians by the last vestige of a hard-core Communist dictatorship in Europe. Man does not do this to his fellow man."

Mr. Shea reiterated Friday that NATO was "extremely concerned" about the fate of many missing male Kosovars.

PLAN: Protectorate Weighed

Continued from Page 1

is no longer applicable.

"Kosovo within Yugoslavia is becoming more and more difficult to conceive of, even with the maximum degree of autonomy involving the Rambouillet package," the diplomat said. "It may still not be too late to go back to that, but it is becoming more and more remote. So a protectorate, independence with international guarantees — these are at least coming into the debate."

The discussions over a protectorate reflect a major change in the long debate over how to bring peace to Kosovo.

Under the Rambouillet approach, NATO was to send 28,000 peacekeeping troops only after both the Serbs and the ethnic Albanians had accepted the autonomy plan.

But with the plan rejected by the Serbs, and with their forces on the march in Kosovo, there is a growing sense among diplomats that the coexistence between the Serbs and Kosovars is no longer viable.

For one thing, some diplomats say, the ethnic Albanians would find it difficult to live again under Serb authority, even with the autonomy projected by the Rambouillet agreement. Additionally, President Bill Clinton has warned Mr. Milosevic that his campaign against the ethnic Albanians was jeopardizing his right to govern Kosovo.

Even NATO's secretary-general, Javier Solana Madariaga, suggested in an interview this week that the Rambouillet accord would probably need to be modified, but did not say how.

The plan under discussion by diplomats here to turn Kosovo into a NATO protectorate also reflects a resistance to make Kosovo an independent state — no NATO nation has formally called for it — or to make Kosovo part of a greater Albania, for fear that such steps could destabilize the region.

Many critical details of how a protectorate might work remain to be worked out. The basic thinking is that weeks of bombing would cripple the Yugoslav military and force Serbian soldiers and police units to retreat from Kosovo.

Then, ethnic Albanians refugees would begin to return under the protection of NATO troops. The refugees would be allowed to return to all of Kosovo; the province would not be partitioned.

The NATO troops would function more like a protection force than a peacekeeping force. They might be sent even if Belgrade did not agree to the presence of NATO forces in Kosovo, though probably not in the face of determined Serb resistance. Diplomats could try to work out a peace accord afterward.

"The sequence used to be full political agreement, followed by an international peacekeeping force," the senior NATO diplomat said. "The question that will have to be answered now is whether the international presence is so indispensable to the return of the refugees that one has to look at a different sequence."

It is not clear how large such a NATO force might be.

General Wesley Clark, the senior allied commander, hinted Thursday in a press conference that contingency planning was being carried out for using ground forces in new ways.

But he refused to provide any details.

Allied officials reiterated, however, that there was no consideration of using ground forces to invade Kosovo. NATO officials also pointed to the difficulties in sending ground troops as part of an effort to establish "safe areas" in Kosovo for Albanian refugees.



The EU foreign aid commissioner, Emma Bonino, in Brussels on Friday, where she urged "armed protection for the humanitarian aid" to Kosovo.

REFUGEES: Hungry Fight for Bread

Continued from Page 1

Albanian government did not have enough buses and trucks to ferry them to refugee camps throughout the country.

In Kukës district, the situation has become absolutely critical. Information Minister Muesë Ulqini said on television. "During the night and up to now, the influx of Albanians in need of help arriving from Kosovo has been extraordinary."

Albania, Europe's poorest country, has taken in an estimated 130,000 refugees from Kosovo since the North Atlantic Treaty Organization began attacks on Yugoslavia.

Prime Minister Pandeli Majko said Kukës was crisscrossed with around 90,000 refugees and the situation was "dramatic."

Mr. Majko said he was in constant contact with other countries urging that a relief operation launched several days ago be accelerated.

Those arriving in Macedonia compared their train trip to a real-life version of many of the movies they had seen about the Holocaust.

Herded into the trains shoulder to shoulder reportedly at the point of a gun, more than 20,000 refugees arrived Friday in Blace to a harsh welcome, stranded in a no-man's-land between two frontiers.

"It's the most humiliating thing that can happen to a human being, to be expelled from his own land," said Flaka

Surroi, a Unicef assistant project manager from Pristina.

Many said the most frightening part of their journey was in Pristina, when police went door to door, put them in buses and later packed them into the train and buses for the journey out of Kosovo.

"You could not move, you had to pack yourself into the train and just be there standing for over four hours and then walk for more than a kilometer into this valley," Mr. Surroi said. "You don't have an option. The sole fact that they are threatening to kill you if you don't leave your home applies for the train."

Hungry and cold, thousands huddled Friday by makeshift camp fires in a field between the two border checkpoints. There was little humanitarian aid in the makeshift camp.

"We are like animals, cattle sent here to starve," said one woman, as she sat shivering with her children. "There is no food, no plastic for the rain nothing."

The European Union humanitarian affairs commissioner, Emma Bonino, said Friday an international armed force must be deployed to assure humanitarian aid.

Miss Bonino, who had just returned from a 48-hour trip to Albania and Macedonia, said EU foreign ministers would hold a special meeting in Luxembourg next week to study the Kosovo crisis. She called for "armed protection for the humanitarian aid that the international community must provide to Kosovo."

(Reuters, AP, AFP)

Continued from Page 1

trodding of ground troops.

Mr. Clinton and his senior foreign policy aides crossed that option off the list last autumn, but sources said White House meetings had returned to the issue anew in recent days as leading voices, such as Senator John McCain, Republican of Arizona, and former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, have said that ground troops must be considered.

But the new conversations, sources said, have not altered the old conclusions: Having troops invade Kosovo would lead to a dangerous, open-ended commitment that is not in the U.S. interest.

Vice President Al Gore, one of the most ardent voices in favor of bombing Yugoslavia, is also one of the most vehement in opposition to putting ground troops there. The vice president is right to be concerned, said one foreign policy adviser to Mr. Clinton. If U.S. troops go

to Yugoslavia, they are certain to be bogged down there in an ambiguous mission by the time Mr. Gore seeks to succeed Mr. Clinton in the 2000 election.

Yet even Mr. Clinton's preferred method of escalation — intensifying and expanding the bombing — carries costs that weigh heavily on this administration. One is the risk of deep new strains between the U.S. and Russia.

Since his opening days in office, Mr. Clinton has identified better relations with Russia as among the topmost priorities on his national security agenda. Now this aim is jeopardized by the strong negative feelings in Moscow toward the NATO campaign.

The operation has also damaged the reputation and authority of the United Nations. Mr. Clinton has sought in other contexts, such as the Iraq conflict, to elevate the UN Security Council in prominence. But the United States insisted that no UN authorization was re-

quired to start an air war in the heart of Europe.

This confluence of political and strategic dilemmas has provoked a crisis that seemed, from the vantage point of the president's political advisers, to strike with the suddenness of lightning.

Just six weeks after Mr. Clinton survived his impeachment battle, some aides acknowledge their surprise at being in a confrontation that is just as stressful within the White House and holds life-and-death consequences that were never present in the yearlong Monica Lewinsky scandal.

"He's very tired," said a friend of the president's, describing Mr. Clinton's mood in the midst of the crisis. "But he's very determined. He believes this was a moral duty. He knows we had to do this."

Mr. Clinton's predicament, say a variety of people who know him, is replete with ironies. He grew up watching well-

intentioned leaders — including personal heroes such as John F. Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson — sink gradually into an undefined and ultimately unwinnable war in Vietnam. This general experience was reinforced by his early experience as president, in which he expanded a humanitarian mission in Somalia only to retreat after 18 U.S. Army Rangers were killed.

But another set of instincts is tugging Mr. Clinton in the opposite direction. The success of the NATO peacekeeping in Bosnia, which Mr. Clinton pursued in defiance of his reputation as a politician who always follows the polls, bolstered his confidence mightily in the efficacy of American power abroad.

Meanwhile, missed opportunities haunt him. At an emotional appearance in Rwanda last year, he acknowledged that he and other world leaders should have intervened to prevent the 1994 genocide in that African nation.

Moreover, Mr. Clinton plainly responds at a personal level to the Balkans bloodshed. Many times he has said the war there has implications for the American experiment in cultural pluralism, and that allowing ethnic warfare to go unchecked risks letting the "21st century world" descend into "a time of chaos and madness," as he put it in a speech Tuesday to a group of electronics industry executives.

Foreign policy experts say that Mr. Clinton's middle-ground approach — bombing but no troops — may have put more at stake than he bargained for, once Mr. Milosevic responded to the bombing by accelerating his assault on the ethnic Albanians in Kosovo.

"What's changed is the reputation and the honor of the administration and NATO," said Richard Betts, a foreign policy analyst at Columbia University. "We've gotten into a war, we've committed our resources and our reputation to trying to do something."

For now, the White House said it remained confident that something would be achieved. "We are going to keep bombing him," a senior administration official said. "Eventually, Milosevic is going to cry uncle."

Deported by Train, Dazed Kosovars Stream Into Macedonian Camp

By Carlotta Gall
New York Times Service

BLACE, Macedonia — The valley hummed with thousands of voices, the hillside and fields below shifted constantly with crowds of people. Along the train tracks a steady line of stumbling figures moved forward to join the human mass.

Well over 10,000 refugees from Kosovo are camped here in the open, just over the border in Macedonia. They are still arriving by the thousands, turning the fields into a sprawling refugee camp.

They have come from Kosovo's capital, Pristina, and other towns, herded at gunpoint by Serbian police into trains, trucks and buses in an operation that recalls a Nazi or Stalinist deportation.

"The police ordered us out of the house," said Zene Krasniqi, an ethnic Albanian builder from Pristina. "They put us in a line, along with all the neighbors, and marched us to the railway station."

After a night in the station amid thousands of other displaced people, and under guard of armed police, they were loaded onto a train and sent to the border. On the Serbian side of the border, they were ordered out and told to walk along the tracks into Macedonia.

Everyone told the same story. Some arrived by trucks and buses, most of them from Pristina, others from Uroševac, or Ferizaj, as the Albanians know it, a town of some 70,000 people south of Pristina.

The flood has completely overwhelmed the Macedonian authorities.

Armed soldiers were brought in to stem the flow along the railroad tracks and riot police with automatic weapons, wearing flak jackets and helmets, formed a barrier to block refugees from the main road.

Aid workers admitted they had been taken by surprise by the sudden rush of people in the last few days. "We did not think such a wave would arrive," said a Swiss representative of the Red Cross, who asked to remain anonymous.

She estimated there were more than 10,000 refugees gathered and many more on the other side waiting to cross. "The situation is getting dramatic," she said. "In one or two days there will be people dying, the youngest and the oldest."

Only one field hospital was working. Men struggled through the crowd with an unconscious man into the tent, past a line of women and babies. Old people sat on blankets outside.

Police were enforcing strict controls to register the refugees, but with only one table and one book, the line was barely moving. Refugees registering

said they had been lining up for seven hours since before dawn.

Families arriving collapsed where they stood, lying down in the field, amid their few belongings, huddling under blankets and plastic sheets as rain began to lash down. Some had made wood fires, others were trying to build shelters.

Mr. Krasniqi was splicing a tree branch with a penknife, making supports for a tent for his two tiny grandchildren asleep on the ground. With his children, cousins, and old mother-in-law, there were 15 people camped together on two square yards of earth.

"We would never have gone if they had not forced us," he said. He and his wife, Fatima Krasniqi, said they did not blame the North Atlantic Treaty Organization for causing their plight.

"We were happy that NATO bombs were falling, they were only falling on military targets," she said. "We were not afraid, we even opened the windows to watch. If we did not have NATO, they would have massacred all of us."

Syld Bafija, 84, half blind and nearly deaf, sat tall and defiant on the ground among his family. "They are no better than Gypsies to wage this war," he said of the Serbs. "They are putting children out in the rain." He had fled to Pristina

after Serbian troops burned his village last year, he said. Now they had been forced from Pristina at gunpoint.

"Nothing good will come of the Serbs after this," he said. "They forced us out of our property. Those are our lands; my family have lived there for 500 years. But Belgrade will never own Kosovo."

For now, though, his family had nowhere to go. "We are sleeping here on the ground, nine people to two blankets," his son, Tahir Bafija, said. "We cannot survive this, with all these people. Europe has only four or five days to decide something."

Just behind the Bafija family, stumbling, eyes dazed with shock, came the new arrivals along the train tracks. "Ferizaj," they said, mumbling the name of their home town as they walked, their heads bent, exhaustion in their faces.

A family bumped an old woman along in a wheelbarrow, another dragged a young handicapped boy in a wheelchair. A young man staggered as he heaved his grandfather onto his back to carry him.

Few refugees recounted stories of killings, although several said they had seen two or three dead bodies lying beside the train tracks on the journey. Most families seemed to have escaped together, men, women and children, unharmed if traumatized.

MUSEUMS IN FRANCE

ALONE WITH THE IMPRESSIONISTS

New and lesser-known museums in the French capital and the provinces hold untold riches.

On a first trip to Paris, visits to the Louvre, the Musée d'Orsay and the Picasso Museum are a must for most tourists, but on subsequent trips, why not avoid the crowds and tour some of the smaller, lesser-known museums? Many are true gems.

A good place to start is the recently renovated Musée Jacquemart-André (158, bd Haussmann; tel.: 01 42 89 04 91), the gracious mansion where the collection of wealthy 19th-century art lovers Edouard André and Nellie Jacquemart is displayed. The couple particularly fancied the 18th-century French school and Italian Renaissance art. Lunch in the museum's beautiful café, with its ceiling fresco by Tiepolo, is a unique experience.

The Musée Marmottan (2, rue Louis-Boilly; tel.: 01 42 24 07 02), housed in a lovely 19th-century mansion near the Bois de Boulogne, has a collection of paintings by Claude Monet, including some of his water lilies and the famous "Impression, Sunrise," plus part of Monet's personal art collection and other works.

For more Monet, the Orangerie (Jardin des Tuileries; tel.: 01 42 97 48 16) is a peaceful place to sit and contemplate the water lilies.

Literary museums

Little museums with literary connections abound in Paris. The Musée de la Vie Romantique (16, rue Chaptal; tel.: 01 48 74 95 38) honors George Sand in the former home of artist Ary Scheffer, whose guests included Sand, Chopin, Liszt and Ingres.

Fans of the sharp-tongued letter writer Madame de Sévigné will want to visit her former home, the Musée Carnavalet (23, rue de Sévigné; tel.: 01 42 72 21 13), now the museum of Paris history. Exhibits include a replica of Marcel Proust's cordoned bedroom and interesting documents from the time of the Revolution.

Artist's studios

The Musée Gustave Moreau (14, rue de la Rochefoucauld; tel.: 01 48 74 38 50) is located in the 19th-century Symbolist artist's former town house. More than 6,000 of his paintings and other works are on display in this fascinating, quiet museum.

A relatively new museum devoted to a Parisian artist is the Musée Maillol (59, rue de Grenelle; tel.: 01 42 22 59 58), created by Aristide Maillol's former model, Dina Vierny. Housed in a handsome 18th-century mansion, the museum also holds temporary exhibitions of works by other artists.

The sculptor Henri Bouchard's studio has been preserved as the artist left it when he died in 1960. His works are presented along with the tools of his trade at the Musée Bouchard (25, rue de l'Yvette; tel.: 01 46 47 63 46).

The contents of another sculptor's studio can be found in an often-overlooked little building on the esplanade next to the Centre Georges Pompidou. Constantin Brancusi's works and tools have been transported from their original location to the Atelier Brancusi (Rue Rambuteau/Rue Saint-Martin; tel.: 01 44 78 12 33), in a new building designed by Renzo Piano.

In the more intimate setting of one of Paris's most beautiful squares, the Place Furstemberg, is the Musée National Eugène Delacroix (6, rue de Furstemberg; tel.: 01 44 41 86 50). The artist's works and memorabilia of his life are shown in his former home and studio, along with a private garden. A splendid garden is also one of the many attractions of the Musée Rodin (77, rue de Varenne; tel.: 01 47 05 01 34).

Some Paris museums are notable for their architecture as

well as their contents. The Fondation Cartier pour l'Art Contemporain (261, bd Raspail; tel.: 01 42 18 56 50) was handsomely designed by Jean Nouvel, and holds exhibitions on themes like "love" and "nature." Nouvel also designed the Institut du Monde Arabe (1, rue des Fossés-Saint-Bernard; tel.: 01 40 51 38 38). Exhibits focus on the arts of the Arab world, and fine views of Paris can be had from the rooftop terrace and restaurant. The newly opened Musée de la Musique (221, av. Jean-Jaurès; tel.: 01 44 84 44 84), with stunning modern architecture by Christian de Portzamparc, has a collection of more than 900 instruments from the 17th century to the present.

Tour de France: Art abounds in the provinces

The French provinces are home to a wide range of museums that have recently been spiffing up their collections and hiring renowned architects to build impressive new homes for them.

The latest addition is Nice's Musée des Arts Asiatiques (405, promenade des Anglais-Arènes, Nice; tel.: 04 92 29 37 00). The only museum of Asian art on the Côte d'Azur, it opened in October 1998. Designed by Japanese architect Kenzo Tange, the building has a minimalist design based on two geometric forms: The square, which represents the earth, and the circle, symbol of the sky. Located in the Phoenix botanical garden next to an artificial lake, the museum's walls are faced with white Carrara marble.

The spacious, light-filled interior has a graceful curved staircase leading up to a rotunda, and there is a tearoom and a gift shop. Unlike most museums, this one was not created to house an existing collection, but is depending on public collections and loans from other museums, including Paris's prestigious museum of Asian art, the Musée Guimet, as well as an annual acquisitions budget of 2 million francs (\$327,948), to fill its galleries.

The city of Grenoble was the first in France to have a museum of modern art, housed in its Musée des Beaux-Arts since 1920. Now, the museum's collection has a handsome new home that was conceived with it in mind. The Musée de Grenoble, opened four years ago and designed by three local architects, Antoine Félix-Faure, Olivier Félix-Faure and Philippe Macary, is a study in minimalism, light and purity. Visitors can walk through an abbreviated history of art, from Egyptian antiquities through the Italian Renaissance and right up to modernists Christian Boltanski and Pierre Soulages. Some 1,200 paintings and sculptures are displayed in the museum's 5,500 square meters of exhibition space.

Lille, a city being reborn thanks to the opening of the Channel Tunnel, has spent six years renovating and enlarging its Palais des Beaux-Arts (Place de la République; tel.: 03 20 06 78 00), considered the second French museum after the Louvre. Architects Jean-Marc Ibos and Myrto Vitart were commissioned to open up the museum to the city and make it more welcoming. Reopened in 1997, the museum now has additional temporary exhibition space and three new de-



From classical sculpture to contemporary art, France is a museum-lover's paradise.

partments: relief maps, 19th-century French sculpture, and medieval and Renaissance art. Its collection boasts masterpieces by Rubens, Goya and Courbet, plus a fine collection of drawings by Raphael.

Nancy's Musée des Beaux-Arts (3, place Stanislas; tel.: 03 83 85 30 72), considered one of the best provincial fine-arts museums in France, has just undergone a renovation that has doubled its exhibition space. The museum is notable for its collection of 17th-century Italian art and for some 400 pieces of Daum glassware, produced in the city. The museum is also the home of Edouard Manet's "Autumn," a portrait of his lover, Mery Laurent.

MUSEE CLAUDE MONET A GIVERNY

THE HOUSE - GARDENS - LILY POND OF CLAUDE MONET

Open from Tues to Sun 10h to 18h (except Thursdays)

closed from Mon except on Mon Apr 5 & May 24

35 FF for complete visit 25 FF for the gardens

Children 7-12 20 FF, group adults 25 FF

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

Info: 33 (0)2 32 51 23 21

UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

PARIS

- **Centre Georges Pompidou.** "David Hockney: Space/Landscape," to April 18. "Robert Delaunay: From Impressionism to Abstraction," June 3-Aug. 16. Rue Rambuteau and Rue Saint-Martin. Tel.: 01 44 78 12 33.
- **Grand Palais.** "A Friend of Cézanne and Van Gogh: Doctor Gachet," to April 26. "Egyptian Art at the Time of the Pyramids," April 9-July 12. 3, av. du Général-Eisenhower. Tel.: 01 44 13 17 47.
- **Jeu de Paume.** "Georges Pompidou et la Modernité," to April 18. "Gutai," May 4-June 27. Place de la Concorde. Tel.: 01 42 60 69 69.
- **Louvre.** "The Essence of Architecture," April 16-July 12. 16th- and 18th-century Italian and French architectural drawings. "The Bronzes of the Crown," April 16-July 12. Tel.: 01 40 20 51 51.
- **Maison Européenne de la Photographie.** Photos by Ralph Gibson, Catherine Ikam and Louis Fiéni. Rachid Khimoune, to May 30. 5-7, rue de Fourcy. Tel.: 01 44 78 75 00.
- **Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris.** "Mark Rothko Retrospective," to April 18. "Painting After Abstractionism," May 20-Sept. 19. 11, av. du Président-Wilson. Tel.: 01 53 67 40 00.
- **Musée de la Seine.** "Photographers in Algeria in the 19th Century," April 15-July 11. 12, rue Surcouf. Tel.: 01 45 56 60 17.
- **Musée d'Orsay.** "Edward Burne-Jones, 1833-1898," to June 6. 1, rue de Bellechasse. Tel.: 01 40 49 48 14.
- **Musée Picasso.** "David Hockney: Dialogue with Picasso," to May 3. 5, rue de Thorigny. Tel.: 01 42 71 25 21.
- **Petit Palais.** "Morocco: Treasures of the Kingdom," April 15-July 18. Av. Winston-Churchill. Tel.: 01 42 65 12 73.

PROVINCES

- **Musée de Picardie, Amiens.** "Miró: Jardinier des Rêves," to May 2. 48, rue de la République. Tel.: 03 22 97 14 00.
- **capcMusée d'Art Contemporain, Bordeaux.** "Cindy Sherman: Retrospective," to April 25. "Miró," May 20-Aug. 29. 7, rue Ferrère. Tel.: 05 56 00 81 50.
- **Musée de Grenoble, Grenoble.** "Art in Berlin from the End of the 19th Century to the Present," to November. Place de Lavalette. Tel.: 04 76 63 44 44.
- **Palais des Beaux-Arts, Lille.** "Furious Medea: Eugène Delacroix's Preparatory Drawings," to May 19. Place de la République. Tel.: 03 20 06 78 00.
- **Musée des Beaux-Arts, Lyon.** "Raoul Dufy," to April 18. 20, pl. des Terreaux. Tel.: 04 72 10 17 40.
- **Musée des Beaux-Arts, Nancy.** "Painting and Art Nouveau," to July 26. 3, place Stanislas. Tel.: 03 83 85 30 72.

MUSÉE D'ART MODERNE DE TROYES

DONATION PIERRE ET DENISE LEVY

From April 25 to June 7

Auguste CHABAUD

Drawings

From July 1st to Sept. 30

George BOUCHE

Paintings

Everyday except Tuesday and legal holidays

Place Saint-Pierre - 10000 TROYES

T. (33-3) 25 76 26 80 - F. (33-3) 25 76 95 02

Musée National des Arts et Traditions Populaires

6, avenue du Mahatma Gandhi - 75116 Paris

Tél : +33 01 44 17 60 00

"Tropiques méti, mémoires et cultures

de Guadeloupe, Guyane, Martinique, Réunion"

up to April 12, 1999.

"Souffles, c'est jouer: Cornemuses à miroirs en Limousin"

April 14 - August 30, 1999

"France - Québec, images et miroirs"

June 9 - Jan 10, 2000

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line 1)

Every day except Tuesday, from 9.15 to 5.00. Metro: Les Sablons (Line

EDITORIALS/OPINION

Herald INTERNATIONAL Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

Tenacity in Kosovo

As the setbacks mount in Kosovo, including the capture of three U.S. servicemen, it has become clear that this conflict will not produce another lightning military victory for the United States.

For a superpower lately grown accustomed to swift, decisive and relatively bloodless military ventures abroad, the war in Kosovo seems likely to require great patience and a high tolerance for uncertainty. That is especially true for President Bill Clinton and his advisers, who must resist the temptation to react to every battlefield reversal with an instant, improvised escalation of combat.

President Slobodan Milosevic of Yugoslavia has proved to be a cunning and cruel opponent who has exploited the limitations of NATO's air assault by sending his troops on a rampage across Kosovo. U.S. and NATO commanders underestimated his endurance and savagery. But that is no reason to rush wildly into some new phase of warfare. The smarter course is an admittedly dismal situation is to give the strategy of targeted bombing time to grind on Mr. Milosevic's resolve and the patience of his people.

Steadiness is especially important because every new misfortune in Kosovo increases the pressure on Mr. Clinton to direct more firepower against Serbia. In addition to the wrenching images of thousands of frightened refugees streaming across the border to Albania, Macedonia and Montenegro, there is now the harrowing television picture of three U.S. soldiers with bloodied faces held captive by the Serbs. Whether the men strayed into Kosovo or were abducted from Macedonia, they must be treated humanely by Mr. Milosevic. A military trial of the soldiers, threatened by Serbian authorities, would be repugnant.

But bombing military targets in downtown Belgrade, which has been approved by NATO and could commence at any time, will not help the three Americans or advance NATO's interests. The Serbian capital is an old and densely populated city of two million people, many living and working near government buildings. Numerous civilians could be killed by the most accurate missile or bomb attack, rallying support for Mr. Milosevic within Serbia and generating sympathy for his cause in Europe.

Both public and congressional opinion in the United States need to be consulted about decisions so grave as bombing a European capital or sending ground troops into Kosovo. Neither step would immediately end the Serbian sweep across Kosovo. It would take days to prepare for a limited invasion of 30,000 troops aimed at establishing safe havens in Kosovo for ethnic Albanians.

A month or more would be needed to assemble the tanks, helicopters and 200,000 soldiers required to evict Serbian forces altogether from Kosovo. Either strategy could produce large numbers of NATO casualties, and must be coordinated with a political plan for the future of Kosovo that Washington and its allies have not yet devised.

For now, the most appropriate military response to the Serbian assault is to locate and bomb Serbian forces in Kosovo, to disrupt their supply lines and communications networks and to hit command posts and other military targets outside Belgrade. Inadequate NATO planning and bad weather have restricted such attacks so far.

Augmented air strikes cannot prevent Serbian atrocities, but they can slow the Serbian advance and may eventually drive Mr. Milosevic to seek a political settlement.

In warfare, disappointment and frustration can produce impulsive, defective decisions. Mr. Clinton seemed to recognize the danger Thursday when he told a navy audience in Virginia that "we must be determined and patient." He and his aides should be guided by that view as they manage what promises to be a long and difficult conflict with Serbia.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Vulnerable Paraguay

The upheaval in Paraguay reads like a bad novel until you realize that it reflects a painfully real condition of democratic fragility found too often in South America and in other newly democratic places. But the upheaval also invites Paraguay, still recovering from 35 years of dictatorship by General Alfredo Stroessner, to strengthen the political system on which everything else rests.

It happened this way: Lino Cesar Ovelar, a general of the 55-year-old Colorado Party, won the presidential primary last year. His opponent had him jailed for trying to overthrow a previous government, and he was forced to abandon his candidacy. In prolonged turmoil that culminated in sniper shootings, President Raúl Cubas Grau was compelled to resign. The vice president, Luis María Argana, was assassinated; under suspicion in that affair, and as the resigned president's ostensible mentor, the same general was exiled.

Not So Blue Moon

So now it turns out that the "blue moon" that appeared Wednesday — supposedly the second blue moon of the year — really wasn't. In fact, the first blue moon of the year, spotted back in January, really wasn't, either. What started out as one of those remarkable years in which two blue moons were to lighten the skies will actually end up as a year in which not a single blue moon emerges.

We know all this thanks to a timely confession by Sky & Telescope magazine, which made a careless error half a century ago that has reverberated ever after among astronomy buffs. The term "blue moon" to these people has come to mean the second full moon to appear in any calendar month. But when a Canadian folklorist tried to trace the origins of this meaning, he had a horrendous time. He tracked it back through a 1986 Trivial Pursuit question, which was based on a 1985 children's almanac, which may have gotten it from a 1980 radio broadcast, which was based on a 1946 article in Sky & Telescope, which cited the 1937 Maine Farmers' Almanac.

The only trouble was, Sky & Telescope now acknowledges, that the original almanac never said a blue moon was the second full moon in a

month. That interpretation was mistakenly inferred by a contributor to the magazine. The almanac itself apparently decided that, if there were four full moons in a three-month season, the third should be called a blue moon. By that reckoning, there will be no blue moons this year.

The only cause for joy is that we can now get back to the deeper meanings of "blue moon," which never quite fit with the two-in-a-month definition anyway. The common expression "once in a blue moon" has always meant "once in a very long time." Yet the appearance of two full moons in the same calendar month is not all that rare, occurring about once every two and a half years or so, on average.

Lyrists think that blue moons are sad moons that see us "standing alone... without a love of my own." But the term "blue moon" goes back more than 400 years, with meanings that range from absurdity (much like saying the moon is made of "green cheese") to actual visual descriptions of moons that looked blue when viewed through the dust kicked up by huge volcanic explosions or forest fires. Such cataclysmic events really do occur rarely, or "once in a blue moon."

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Between Turks and Kurds, a History of Tension

By William Pfaff

PARIS — The cause of the Kurdish people is not one the Western powers want to hear about, when they have Kosovo on their minds. They might wish to say to the Kurds what Stalin said to another small nation, Finland. In 1938, when world war was looming and Russia wanted territorial concessions, Stalin said, "I am not responsible for geography."

The Kurdish people have the geographical misfortune to live at a point where Arab, Turkish and Persian (Iranian) civilizations intersect. But they are not numerous enough, or sufficiently united, to impose themselves and claim and defend a Kurdish state. Being where they are, they have little choice but to accommodate their neighbors.

But the governments of the states in which they live have not been very accommodating to them. The result has been a history of grief.

Yet what is their alternative? This question is again on the table, since the Turkish government is putting on trial Abdullah Ocalan, the leader of the Kurdistan Workers Party, or PKK. The PKK mobilizes that fraction of the Kurdish community which supports insurrection and terrorism to gain national autonomy for the Kurds.

Turkey offers the Kurds full citizenship — but as Turks — and many Kurds have accepted political assimilation.

They have been members of Parliament. There have been Kurdish prime ministers. But Turkey refuses to concede to the Kurds a separate status.

The Ottoman Turks ruled their huge empire with scores, if not hundreds, of distinct national, ethnic and religious communities. Its rule was often arbitrary and despotic, but it institutionalized tolerance. Careers were open to talent. The empire demanded submission and taxes, but not social conformity or religious conversion.

That tolerance was a crucial factor in the empire's destruction. Russia and the other European great powers began to take it apart, sponsoring rebellions and defections. Serbia, Greece, Egypt, Bosnia, Bulgaria, what now is Romania — all acquired independence or semi-independence with foreign help. The Arabs were liberated by Turkey's defeat in World War I.

The most important and dynamic new nation that came out of the collapse of the Ottoman Empire was modern Turkey itself. Its charismatic leader, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, and his associates learned the lesson from the Ottoman collapse that tolerance and diversity can be exploited by national enemies to undermine the unity and

power of the nation. They created a secular state of many nationalities, but only one, undifferentiated citizenship.

They modeled their state on Prussian-led Germany, which had been their ally in World War I, and on the French example of a centralized secular state that assimilates its immigrants and minorities. They have to adopt the national language and culture, which makes them free and equal citizens.

To the founders of modern Turkey, separatism meant weakness and the threat of humiliation the Ottomans had suffered. In 1919, when the World War I allies proposed an independent Kurdistan in the Treaty of Sèvres, Atatürk saw another European attempt to partition his nation. By 1923, the allies had thought again, and the final settlement made no mention of Kurdistan. To the Kurds, it was one more betrayal.

Over the years, the Kurds have seen their national rivals — Greece, Iran, modern Armenia, Syria — play the Kurdish card against them, inciting or sponsoring Kurdish rebellion. Today they are nervous about U.S. sponsorship of an autonomous Kurdish zone inside Iraq. They do not like the United States conducting an undeclared war against Iraq from their territory.

They are also bitter that the European Union, which once invited them to prepare to join it, has indefinitely put

off that application — some official Germans remarking that a nation of Muslims has no place in Europe. (Ottoman Turkey, a Muslim power, ruled southeastern Europe from the 14th to 20th centuries, longer than there has been a Germany.)

As Semih Viner of the Center for International Studies and Research in Paris recently wrote, despite its failures and uncertain human rights performance, the Turkish Republic's 75 years have been a widely underestimated accomplishment. "An undemocratic space has been created, in a part of the world where democracy has not otherwise prospered."

"Including the final years of Ottoman constitutional monarchy, there has been more than a century of democratic experience, despite interruptions by an army which resists subordination to civil power but nonetheless is not an army of military coups and promulgations. Regular elections have taken place since 1946. The party system works and is generally free." The record is not a negligible one.

The tension between Turks and Kurds is one of those terrible problems that history poses without providing a solution — other than tolerance, which generally is in short supply.

International Herald Tribune.
© Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

Can NATO Snatch Victory From the Jaws of Defeat?

By François Heisbourg

PARIS — Fifty years after its creation on April 4, 1949, the Atlantic alliance finds itself staring defeat in the face. For that is the situation, 10 days after the beginning of Operation Allied Force.

President Slobodan Milosevic of Yugoslavia has given no sign that he is ready to initiate the Rambouillet agreement, which is the specific yardstick of political success set forth by President Jacques Chirac of France and Prime Minister Tony Blair of Britain.

Of the three broad aims of the bombing campaign as laid out by President Bill Clinton — weakening Serbia's military capabilities, improving the humanitarian situation and demonstrating the alliance's credibility — only the first is being achieved to some extent. But what is the relevance of destroyed MIGs, SAMs and armament factories to the liquidation of Kosovo moderates and the mass expulsion of civilians by Mr. Milosevic's goon squads? Nor should it be too difficult for Serbia to replenish its weaponry from a dozen arms suppliers in the former Soviet empire once the war is over.

"Ethnic cleansing" was not caused by the bombing, as that process was occurring even during the Rambouillet talks. However, with no foreign eyes left to bear witness, its scope has vastly increased. A "final solution" of sorts is now in progress in Kosovo, which is being brutally emptied of its population. On top of the infinite suffering this

entails comes the prospect of chain-reaction instability in the Balkans. Macedonia, Montenegro and Albania can hardly survive as organized societies in view of the immense material and political burden thrust upon their already frayed social fabric.

Never in its history has NATO's credibility been so severely tested. The negative impact of that reality far outweighs the satisfaction its members can derive from the generally smooth cooperation that has characterized the conduct of Operation Allied Force.

Given the pace of Mr. Milosevic's ethnic cleansing, there are no more than a few weeks left in which NATO can snatch victory from the jaws of defeat — and only a few days left in which to make the corresponding policy decisions.

One option consists of sending ground forces into Kosovo. The prospects here have not been encouraging, since NATO considers that up to 200,000 soldiers would be needed to mount a full-scale assault. That number may be an overestimate. Indeed, General George Joulwan, General Wesley Clark's predecessor as NATO's military commander in Europe, suggests that much smaller numbers could at least begin to do the job, provided they are given massive air support from helicopter gunships and combat aircraft.

Still, such a high-risk operation would

take time to organize. In the best of cases, it will take more than a few days for political consensus to emerge in favor of such an option, and another few weeks to bring force to bear in the field. Having achieved his goal in Kosovo, Mr. Milosevic may be ready for a cease-fire before a ground operation gets moving.

One thing is clear in these circumstances. Only the United States has the wherewithal to orchestrate a large-scale ground operation rapidly against the 40,000 Serbian soldiers based in and around Kosovo. Given the time pressure, only the United States has the means to lead, even if the Europeans would provide the bulk of the ground forces. Encouragingly, opinion polls in Britain and France demonstrate clear support for such an operation.

The other option, promoted by a number of analysts in the United States and in France, is to confront Mr. Milosevic with the recognition of Kosovo's independence, immediately followed by arms transfers and other material assistance. This could be done within a period of days through Albania's border with Kosovo.

In other times, such a choice would have been considered by many as exceedingly destabilizing, with an independent and well-armed Kosovo prompting the disintegration of a Macedonia that has trouble enough coping with its ethnically diverse population (three-quarters Slavic, one-quarter Albanian). That argument now pales into

insignificance, however, given the destabilizing effect of the exodus prompted by ethnic cleansing in Kosovo.

Others have argued that recognition of Kosovo would set a precedent by creating a new boundary in Europe, thus setting a disastrous precedent elsewhere, notably for the Chechnyan secessionists in Russia or the Kurds in Turkey.

But Kosovo's independence will only set a precedent if the West continues to insist, wrongly, that it would set one. Kosovo's right to independence can be justified on the basis that Mr. Milosevic's so-called Federation of Yugoslavia is not, except in name, the legitimate successor state to Tito's Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Conversely, no one questions Russia's status as a legal heir to the Soviet Union, nor that of Turkey as a legitimate member of the international community. The scale of the current disaster is sufficient to justify a change of policy and of rhetoric.

Whatever is done — and the two options reviewed here are not mutually exclusive — it had better be done fast, for the sake of millions of lives at stake in the Balkans. In addition to the moral and strategic arguments, leaders should bear in mind that defeat will surely spoil the 50th anniversary party for NATO that Mr. Clinton will be hosting on April 23.

The writer is chairman of the Geneva Center for Security Policy. He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

Only Ground Forces Can Prevent Further Genocide in Kosovo

By Robert Dallek and Stephen Solarz

BOSTON — Whatever damage the air campaign has done to the Serbian military, it has failed to stop President Slobodan Milosevic's marauding militias from a genocidal assault against a largely defenseless Kosovar population. Stopping the systematic slaughter of innocent civilians under way in Kosovo — while it is still possible to save a substantial number of lives — will require the introduction of NATO ground forces.

If any one lesson emerges from the military history of the

20th century, it is that airpower alone has never been sufficient to achieve the political objectives for which it has been used. The objective in Kosovo must be to stop the systematic killing and "ethnic cleansing," not simply to "diminish" the capacity of the Serbs to achieve a kind of "final solution" to the Kosovo question. A Kosovo without Kosovars is not likely to be seen as a success for NATO, even if the Serbian military has been "degraded" in the process.

The Serbs are not, of course, the only party guilty of such crimes in Kosovo. The Kosovo Liberation Army also has engaged in terrorism. But if the Serbs do not have a monopoly on violence against innocent civilians, they are clearly responsible for the vast majority of such attacks. This is a time for political clarity, not moral equivalence.

Nobody wants the United States or even NATO to become the world's police force. But when we have the capacity

to prevent ethnic cleansing at an acceptable cost in blood and treasure, and when other countries are prepared to join us, we should be willing to do so. Through the combination of a continuing air campaign and the massive firepower that NATO is capable of bringing to bear on the ground, we should be able to drive all organized Serbian forces out of Kosovo in relatively short order and with modest allied casualties.

At the least, we should immediately establish a protected area in Kosovo in which hundreds of thousands of Kosovars could find shelter.

Some have suggested as an alternative to NATO ground forces that we arm the Kosovars themselves and let them do the fighting. If we had time to implement such a policy, it would make sense. But with Serbian forces already on the rampage, this would be too late to avert the massive killing and dislocations that the air campaign was supposed to prevent.

The task before us now is to let go of the proposition that ground troops, as in Vietnam, are almost always a bad idea. Sometimes important strategic

and humanitarian objectives require them. Such is the case in Kosovo. To be sure, public opinion is not yet prepared to support the introduction of ground forces into a "nonpermissive" environment. But one of the tests of effective presidential leadership is to convert instinctive opposition into informed support for a worthy national objective.

We should have no illusions: Putting a NATO army in to fight the Serbs will cost allied and American lives. But it is a war the alliance can win by driving Serbian forces out of Kosovo and then building a Kosovar army that, backed up by NATO airpower, will be able to defend itself from any renewed Serbian aggression. The final political status of Kosovo — whether it be autonomy or independence — can be determined after the Serbian forces have been driven from the field. The challenge now is to prevent genocide.

Mr. Dallek is a professor of history at Boston University. Mr. Solarz, a former member of Congress, is vice chairman of the International Crisis Group. They contributed this comment to The Washington Post.

Europeans Support a Selfless War

By Josef Joffe

MUNICH — Last time, they hung white sheets from their windows. That was in 1991, when the United States started lobbing cruise missiles into Baghdad. But it was not Iraqis who were waving the traditional flag of surrender — it was peace-minded Germans. Never mind that they were not the targets. They wanted to demonstrate their moral superiority in the face of American "cowboy imperialism."

These last few days, we have seen no such displays of righteousness in Europe. Indeed, as the pounding of Yugoslavia enters its second week, the most intriguing news from Europe is that the dogs of peace have not been barking in the night.

To be sure, there have been protests — in Vienna and in Bucharest, in Stockholm and The Hague. Even in Melbourne, demonstrators burned the American flag. But these were not the usual suspects — Greens, pacifists, assorted anti-Americans — but Serbian nationalists or, as in Bucharest, Orthodox priests inveighing against Muslim infidels.

So what makes this fight so different from all other fights? To begin with, this is a battle not even pacifists can resist: a war of conscience, not of interest. The attack on Yugoslavia is aimed at saving lives, and for purely moral reasons.

This makes all the difference to the postmodern liberal mind, which reflexively recoils from force when it is employed for

strategic purposes — say, oil, economic advantage or the balance of power. Europeans (of all stripes) like such force even less when applied by the United States, the "last remaining superpower."

When the U.S. Air Force went after Saddam Hussein, using its ultrasophisticated World War III hardware, Europeans were reminded that they are all alone in the world with an overwhelming giant. And so, the instincts of the weak whisper (against their better judgment), "Let's not restrain Saddam but Uncle Sam."

This time, balancing against Mr. Big was not an issue. Though the United States is doing most of the military work, the NATO campaign is seen as selfless by most Europeans.

There is also, however, an element of realpolitik in this rare instance of trans-Atlantic harmony. When pacifist-neoliberal Europeans turned out by the hundreds of thousands to protest the deployment of American nuclear missiles in the early 1980s, they were driven in large part by the fear that their countries would become a "shooting gallery of the superpowers." Even in 1991, visions of a wider war struck angst into the hearts of those who hung out the white sheets.

But now the Soviet Union is no more, and even the faint of heart do not believe that Rus-

sia will rush to the aid of its Serbian Orthodox brethren. Unlike the czar's divisions in 1914, the Russian Army today is not capable of projecting power abroad.

The final explanation for the widespread support of the air strikes is the changing of the political guard in Europe. Those who hurled rocks against American cultural centers in the 1970s and staged sit-ins in front of U.S. missile bases in the 1980s are now in government themselves.

Nowhere is this shift more dramatic than in Germany. Gerhard Schröder, a radical leftist in his youth, is now chancellor, and Joschka Fischer, the former peace advocate and street fighter, serves as foreign minister. Rudolf Scharping, the Social Democratic defense minister, was once suspended from his party for overzealous agitation against the armed forces.

It seems these men have discovered that when you are in power and there is a fire next door, pacifism becomes a perilous luxury. There is nobody else to take care of business. President Slobodan Milosevic should listen closely to the sounds of silence and not count on discord in the ranks of NATO. At least not soon.

The writer, editorial page editor of Süddeutsche Zeitung, is an associate of the Olin Center for Strategic Studies at Harvard. He contributed this comment to The New York Times.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1899: 100th Birthday

NEW YORK — Mrs. Nancy A. Griffin, who says she was born near Ditto's Landing, in Alabama, one hundred years ago, celebrated the anniversary in N.J. She says she was born a slave and her back bears witness that she has stood under the lash. Mrs. Griffin had eighteen children, all of whom are long since dead. She has thirty-six grandchildren and twenty-eight great-grandchildren. Four of her sons fought in the civil war, and one of them was killed in battle. On her 100th anniversary she danced an old-fashioned dance.

1924: Female Crooks

SACRAMENTO — For quite a while police chiefs have been contending that femininity was trespassing on the ground of the hardened male criminal — banditry, burglary, automobile stealing, run running, narcotics

vending and even murder. Assertions that the fair sex would turn to such unfeminine things, however, has been taken with a grain of salt. There might be exception here and there, but women seeking equality with yeggs, strong-arm men and second story workers — never!

1949: Britain Is Lit

LONDON — Shortly after 7 o'clock last night (April 2) Britain's ten years of night-time gloom came to an end. The lights of Britain glowed to the full measure of their power for the first time since the blackout days of 1939. Thousands of jubilant Londoners crowded Piccadilly Circus. Children who never had seen an electrical display advertising a sparkling movie house stared in wonderment. Flights of frightened birds whirled away as the lights came on and bathed their unaccustomed roosting quarters with candle power.

Herald INTERNATIONAL Tribune

ESTABLISHED 1887

KATHARINE GRAHAM, ARTHUR OCHS SULZBERGER
Co-Chairmen of the BoardPETER C. GOLDMARK JR., Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
RICHARD WOOLDRIDGE, President and Chief Operating Officer
MICHAEL GETTLER, Executive Editor

WALTER WELLS, Managing Editor • PAUL HORVITZ, Deputy Managing Editor

KATHERINE KNORR and CHARLES MITCHELMORE, Deputy Editors

ROBERT J. DONAHUE, Editor of the Editorial Pages

JONATHAN GAGE, Business and Finance Editor

SAMUEL ABT and NICK STOUT, Associate Editors

RENÉ BONDY, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

DIDIER BRUN, Circulation and Development Director

STEPHEN DUNBAR-JOHNSON, Advertising Director • IAN WALTHAM, Marketing Director

Directeur de la Publication: Peter C. Goldmark Jr.

International Herald Tribune, 181 Avenue Charles-de-Gaulle, 92521 Neuilly-sur-Seine, France.
Tel.: (1) 41.43.93.00. Fax: Subscriptions, (1) 41.43.92.10. Advertising, (1) 41.43.92.12. News, (1) 41.43.93.38.
Internet address: <http://www.ihb.com> E-Mail: ihb@ihb.com

Editor for Asia: Michael Richardson
Managing Director, Asia: Nigel I. Oakes
Managing Director, Europe: Nigel I. Oakes
Managing Director, Americas: Thomas Schiller
General Manager, Germany: Thomas Schiller
Frankfurt: 15, 60523 Frankfurt. Tel.: +49 69 971 2504. Fax: +49 69 971 250-20
Regional Director, The Americas: Michael Geach
850 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022. Tel.: (212) 752-3890. Fax: (212) 755-8785
U.S. Advertising Office: 40 Marsh Wall, London E14 9TP. Tel.: (171) 310-5700. Fax: (171) 987-3451
S.A.S. air capital de 1,200,000 F. RCS Nanterre B 22021116. Commission Paritaire No. 61337
©1999, International Herald Tribune. All rights reserved. ISSN: 0294-8052

The Executive With the Reverse Midas Touch

A New Failure At J. Peterman

By Leslie Kaufman
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — As 1997 began, J. Peterman, the American catalogue retailer known for its quirky merchandise, seemed poised for big things. For starters, in an astonishing public-relations windfall, the popular television comedy "Seinfeld" was featuring even more episodes in which the character Elaine worked for the company. Peterman had also just won the rights to sell reproductions of the clothes and jewelry worn in the movie "Titanic," soon to be a monster hit.

To bring it all together, the company hired a new president and chief operating officer who seemed to be the perfect complement to the creative but not especially business-minded co-founder, John Peterman.

When the effusive new executive, Arnold Cohen, arrived, he spoke of a golden future, predicting that sales would rise 50 percent by the following year.

But Mr. Cohen, who headed the charge to expand beyond catalogues into stores, was not quite able to deliver.

In January, J. Peterman declared bankruptcy and early last month its few remaining assets, mainly its name and the lease on an enormous store in Grand Central Terminal, were sold to Paul Harris Stores Inc. for \$10 million. The company lists \$14 million in debt in its last court filing, but that is unlikely ever to be collected.

It was not the first of Mr. Cohen's ventures to run into trouble in recent years.

In less than a decade, he has played a leading role at three well-known clothing firms — London Fog, Today's Man and J. Peterman — as each has descended into serious financial trouble or gone bankrupt. As J. Peterman's co-founder, Don Staley, sees it, Mr. Cohen is nothing less than "a serial killer of



J. Peterman, seated at left, and Arnold Cohen in happier days. Mr. Cohen's detractors say he has run clothing companies into the ground. He says the companies were in very bad straits to begin with.

companies." Retailing is a tough business, and Mr. Cohen certainly not to be blamed for all these companies' ills. In fact, from his perspective, he is mostly guilty of signing on to run companies that were in much worse condition than he first thought.

Asked recently to look back at his career, Mr. Cohen said, "I wish in hindsight that I hadn't selected some of the companies I did."

Still, his story may offer a cautionary tale in an era enmeshed of executive visionaries. Mr. Cohen is a charismatic salesman who works at a frantic pace — traits that have repeatedly made him attractive to companies looking for management talent.

But in each of these cases, Mr. Cohen

has persuaded his superiors, and apparently himself as well, that daring initiatives to expand or reorganize would lead inexorably to success. Each time he was wrong.

After learning his trade at Gucci America and Bloomingdale's, Mr. Cohen, 42, came to prominence in the late 1980s as president of J. Crew Group Inc. In his five years at the company, he helped to refine its trademark all-American style and more than doubled its sales. These achievements quickly established him as a first-rate executive — a rare commodity in an industry notoriously short of talent at the top.

And his reputation has stayed with him, even as he has moved from disaster to disaster. As late as last year, a

colleague said, he bragged that he was one of the two greatest merchandisers in the country. Mr. Cohen does not deny making the remark. "It is one of my great strengths," he said.

But even at J. Crew, all was not idyllic under Mr. Cohen. In 1992, he left without having another job lined up. He says he left because he had "more than achieved my personal goals" and it was time to move on. He says he was also looking for a business where he could have a significant equity stake, something that the J. Crew founder, Arthur Cinader, did not give him.

Mr. Cinader was not available for comment, but a former associate says

See COHEN, Page 10

U.S. Unemployment Falls to 29-Year Low

But March Job Growth Slowed Unexpectedly

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

WASHINGTON — The U.S. unemployment rate dropped to its lowest level in nearly three decades in March, but the roaring economy showed signs of slowing as payrolls grew at an anemic pace, the Labor Department said Friday.

The jobless rate slid to 4.2 percent from 4.4 percent in February. The March rate was the lowest since a matching 4.2 percent rate in February 1970. But only 45,000 new jobs were created last month, the weakest showing since a blizzard in January 1996 caused payrolls to drop by 48,000.

That smaller-than-expected advance contrasts with gains of 297,000 in February and 217,000 in January.

Manufacturers, many hit hard by the global economic slump that began in Asia nearly two years ago, cut 35,000 jobs last month, bringing the decline for the last year to 381,000.

Wage gains were modest, with workers' average hourly earnings, a gauge of business costs, rising 0.2 percent — or 3 cents — to \$13.09 in March, following an increase of 0.2 percent during February.

Treasury bond prices rose sharply on a shortened trading day in reaction to the data, which eased concerns that a robust economy might lead to inflation.

There was "good news in this report" for the bond market, said Ned Riley, chief investment officer at BankBoston Corp. The release "suggests there are little inflationary pressures out there."

The 30-year Treasury bond rose 1/32 to 95 1/32. Its yield fell to 5.59 percent from 5.68 percent. The bond market closed at noon for Good Friday, and stock markets were closed all day.

It is not unusual for the unemployment rate to fall when job growth figures are subdued. The government's payroll figures are based on a survey of businesses, while the unemployment rate is based on a separate survey of households.

The unemployment rate for Hispanics, which fell to 5.8 percent in March from 6.7 percent in February, was the lowest on record since the department began calculating a separate rate for the group in 1973.

(Reuters, AP, Bloomberg)

Mortgage Rates a Risk

Rising mortgage interest rates could pose a threat to the growth of the U.S. economy, Robert D. Hershey Jr. of the New York Times reported Friday.

Since October, U.S. mortgage rates have been crawling upward — and are now an average of about half a percentage point higher nationally.

The first effect has been a decline in home refinancing, which put extra dollars in consumers' pockets and helped fuel a torrid consumer spending spree.

But if mortgage rates continue to rise from their current levels — still quite low in historical terms — sales of homes will drop off as well, as fewer people can make the monthly payments. Furthermore, a significant increase in interest rates would weigh on stocks and could provide some drag on the overall economy.

By the second week of March, the average commitment rate on 30-year mortgages had climbed to its highest point in nine months — 7.11 percent plus 1 percent of the sales price for loans up to \$227,150 — according to Freddie

Mac, the government-chartered company that buys loans from lenders and packages them as securities for investors. Bigger loans tend to run about a quarter point higher.

Rates have since receded a bit, to 6.98 percent this week, but the possibility of resurgence hangs over not just real estate but over the stock market and the booming American economy as well.

The report on job creation in March is crucial because each sign of robust economic growth revives fears of inflation and the possibility of higher interest rates in the financial markets.

If interest rates were to jump significantly, by perhaps a percentage point, "it would be a disaster, the worst thing that could happen," said Robert Froehlich, vice chairman and stock strategist at Kemper Funds in Chicago. "You could see the stock market easily give back 15 to 20 percent of its value."

He remains optimistic, however, that rates will remain largely in check.

Man Charged With Creating E-Mail Virus

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TRENTON, New Jersey — A 30-year-old man has been arrested and charged with originating the e-mail virus known as Melissa, the state attorney general's office announced Friday.

David Smith of Aberdeen Township, New Jersey, was arrested Thursday night at his brother's house in nearby Eatontown, said Rita Malley, a spokeswoman for Attorney General Peter Verniero. Ms. Malley said that Mr. Smith had originated the virus, which caused worldwide e-mail disruption earlier this week, from his apartment in Aberdeen.

He was charged with interruption of public communication, damage to computer systems and other counts, Paul Loriguet of the attorney general's office said. Mr. Smith was released on \$100,000 bail. He could face as many as 40 years in prison and fines as high as \$480,000, New Jersey officials said.

The Melissa virus appeared last Friday and spread rapidly around the world on Monday like a malicious chain letter, causing computers to fire off dozens of infected messages to friends and colleagues and swamping e-mail systems.

It disrupted the operations of thousands of U.S. companies and government agencies whose employees were temporarily unable to communicate by e-mail.

Mr. Smith was snared with the help of technicians from America Online Inc. and a computer task force composed of federal and state agents, Ms. Malley said.

Experts had said there were clues that the virus writer had distributed the virus using an account stolen from America Online 15 months ago. Several anti-virus software makers, including McAfee, Symantec and Sophos, posted software on their Web sites that detect and reject the Melissa virus.

(AP, AFP)

Taiwan Computer Firms Cleaning Up in U.S. Boom

Bloomberg News

TAIPEI — America's economic expansion and the Internet boom have translated into a windfall for Taiwan's leading computer and semiconductor companies, which are riding a crest of booming sales as suppliers to U.S. manufacturers.

Acer Inc., one of the world's top 10 personal computer makers, reported record sales of \$1.35 billion in March, up from \$1.25 billion in February. The company's sales climbed 40 percent in the first quarter, and it said it anticipated its strongest year ever as its relationship with IBM continued to expand.

In another sign of the boom, Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. said Friday that it was running at full capacity through April, which would probably lift earnings in the second quarter.

"The demand from our customers is extremely strong," said Huang Yen-chun, a vice president at Taiwan Semiconductor. "That's going to have a positive impact on our sales and profits."

The bright outlook for the Taiwan high-tech industry helped power the domestic stock market to its biggest gain in six weeks Friday. Acer climbed 5.8 percent and Taiwan Semiconductor rose 1.4 percent, helping lift Taiwan's benchmark stock index 3.05 percent.

All of Taiwan Semiconductor's production lines are fully booked this month, compared with "a little more than" 90 percent in March and 90 percent in February, Mr. Huang said.

Taiwan Semiconductor is Taiwan's bellwether technology stock and the world's biggest contract chipmaker. The company and its rivals, United Microelectronics Corp. of Taiwan and Chartered Semiconductor Manufacturing Ltd. of Singapore, are benefiting from an increase in outsourcing by ATI Technology Inc., Xilinx Inc. and other chip companies in North America and Japan.

Acer predicts that sales this year will hit a record 100 billion dollars, largely because of sales to IBM and a reorganization of several unprofitable units. Acer and other computer-related companies are improving sales as U.S. clients turn to IBM and Motorola Inc. increasingly turn to Taiwan to help them cut costs.

Acer's relationship with IBM has expanded rapidly since last year as IBM tries to outsource more of its production amid falling personal computer prices. Steve Milunovich, an analyst with Merrill Lynch & Co. in New York, said in a recent report that to further reduce costs, IBM may hire companies in Asia and Europe to make and sell its PCs. The companies would make and market IBM-branded PCs, paying IBM a 6 percent royalty. IBM declined to comment.

Acer's revenues of \$1.35 billion in March topped its expectations of 12 billion dollars.

The company said it delivered 200,000 notebook computers during the month, compared with 130,000 a month earlier. In March 1998, Acer's sales were \$2.29 billion dollars.

The company expects to deliver between 1.2 million and 1.5 million laptops this year, with 60 percent going to IBM and a few other clients. Last year's total shipment was 800,000 units.

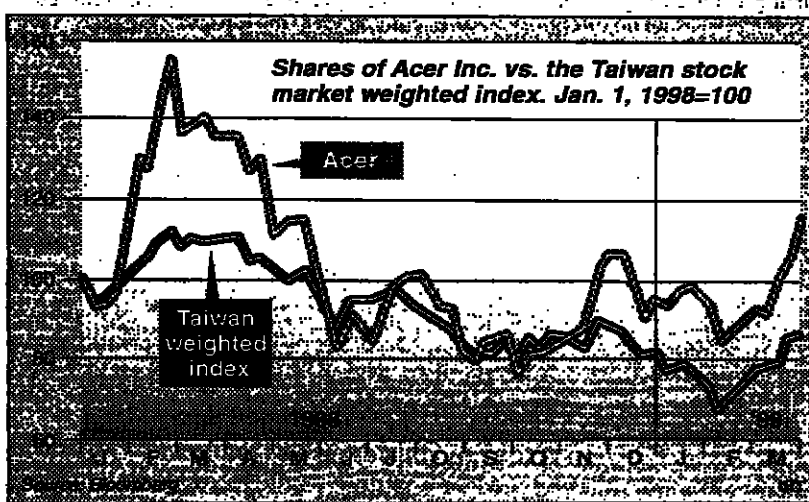
But it is never clear sailing in the volatile high-tech world, analysts warn. Acer could face a challenge if another computer price war erupts and squeezes profit margins.

Chunxun Electronics Corp., a computer monitor manufacturer, said this week that it was having cash flow problems because of a price war with rivals in Asia during the fourth quarter. The company said it owed 8.3 billion dollars to banks and bondholders.

Acer expected to benefit from rising worldwide PC shipments, which are forecast to grow about 14 to 15 percent this year to 100 million units, according to industry estimates. The company expects to sell 7.5 million desktop computers, compared with 6.7 million in 1998.

Still, rising unit sales do not necessarily mean profits. IBM itself lost \$992 million last year in its PC business, as a fierce round of price cutting slashed profits.

Acer is moving to revamp its global logistics and overcome problems at its unprofitable U.S. unit, which sells computers and semiconductor in the retail market there. The U.S. unit — Acer America Inc. — may see its losses shrink to \$20 million or \$30 million in 1999, from \$50 million the year before, said Philips Peng, a vice president.



Murdoch Eyes Liberty Media

Deal Would Increase News Corp.'s Grip on U.S. Sports

By Geraldine Fabrikant
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Rupert Murdoch is poised to take a big step toward increasing his hold over U.S. sports programming by agreeing to buy the 50 percent stake owned by John Malone's Liberty Media Corp. in a venture that controls a dozen regional sports networks, according to people familiar with the transaction.

As part of the deal, they said Thursday, News Corp. would also double its stake — to 40 percent — in the New York Knicks, the New York Rangers, Madison Square Garden and Radio City Music Hall.

Liberty Media would get \$1.4 billion of News Corp. stock, giving it 5 percent of the company and making it the largest single outside investor. The Murdoch family owns roughly 31 percent.

One industry analyst who requested anonymity said Thursday that the deal could help Liberty Media acquire up to 10 percent of News Corp., whose stock has been depressed compared with other media stocks.

A News Corp. spokesman said there was no deal now, adding that he did not comment on rumors. A Liberty Media spokesman declined to comment.

The deal would fit the style and interests of both men.

Mr. Murdoch has long believed that sports is one of the four key elements in programming, along with movies, news and children's shows, and he has spent heavily to acquire it. He already owns the Los Angeles Dodgers and the Manchester United soccer team in England, and he has options to invest in the Los Angeles Lakers basketball team and Los Angeles Kings hockey team.

But Mr. Murdoch prefers to control his own operations and avoid answering to partners who might hold him back from making other investments.

Mr. Malone, meanwhile, has generally preferred to hold stakes in programming companies that were managed by others. When possible, he has preferred to build a portfolio of assets in public companies.

Liberty Media, which was spun off from Tele-Communications Inc., a cable company, has acquired stakes in a wide variety of media companies. It already owns 10 percent of Time Warner Inc. as well as positions in USA Networks Inc., Discovery Communications Inc., United Video Satellite Group Inc. and others.

Last summer, when Mr. Malone agreed to sell Tele-Communications to AT&T Corp. and took control of Liberty, it was clear that he planned to expand it. The company now has \$5.5 billion in cash, about \$5 billion in Sprint-PCS stock and the right to borrow up to 25 percent of its market capitalization — \$36 billion Thursday — without getting permission from AT&T.

"He has a tremendous war chest," said John Tinker of NationsBank Montgomery Securities — one reason why Mr. Malone may be eyeing a larger stake in News Corp.

The News Thursday pushed News Corp. stock up \$1.0625 to close at \$30.56, though it has only risen 12.4 percent in the past 52 weeks. Liberty Media closed at \$4.75, up \$2.15. U.S. markets were closed Friday for a holiday.

CURRENCY RATES

Cross Rates		April 1-April 2		Other Dollar Values		April 1	
Currency	Per \$	Currency	Per \$	Currency	Per \$	Currency	Per \$
London (to)	1.605	—	2.3698	191.85	2.4148	11.0343	484.41
New York (to)	—	1.6035	1.4805	120.505	1.496	6.8917	302.47
Tokyo	120.55	193.30	81.44	—	80.31	12.51	14.66
Taiwan	1.5057	2.4148	1.0188	1.2597	—	0.2189	0.4986
Zurich	1.4745	2.3673	—	1.2348	0.9805	21.4868	0.4894
One euro	1.0772	0.672	1.5973	129.85	1.6162	7.4317	326.30
One SDR	1.358	0.8432	2.0117	161.53	2.038	N.A.	412.26

Source: Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi (Tokyo) Royal Bank of Canada (Toronto) Banque de France (Paris) IMF (SDR). Other data from Reuters.

Euro Values		Fixed rates of the ECU member countries, for one euro	
Austrian schilling	13.7603	British pound	0.793656
Belgian franc	40.3399	Italian lira	200.484
Dutch guilder	3.76033	Portuguese escudo	200.484
French franc	6.55957	Spanish peseta	166.636
German mark	1.93603		

THE AMERICAS

Broadcast.com's Founders Turn Passion for Sports Into Gold

By Greg Chang
Bloomberg News

DALLAS — Mark Cuban and Todd Wagner were hell-bent on getting radio broadcasts of Indiana University basketball games in the heart of Texas, so they started Broadcast.com Inc. in a spare bedroom in 1995 to track their alma mater's play.

Their passion for sports pulled in a lot more with Yahoo! Inc.'s offer of \$6.08 billion in stock and options for their company, which broadcasts audio and video entertainment and corporate events over the Internet.

Mr. Cuban, Broadcast.com's chairman and president, stands to reap about \$1.28 billion for his 9.25 million shares and Mr. Wagner, the company's chief executive officer, will get about \$683.1 million for his 4.92 million shares.

Mr. Wagner and Mr. Cuban have gone from putting radio broadcasts of college basketball games on-line to providing live feeds from more than 350 radio stations nationwide. The duo also have turned to serving corporate customers, who put conference calls and

other events on-line to reach a wide audience cheaply.

"Both of them are visionaries," said Phil Leigh, an analyst with Raymond James & Associates. "They have the cordiality of true gentlemen, with the business aggressiveness of type A personalities with rabies."

Mr. Wagner, 37, and Mr. Cuban, listed as 39 in a July regulatory filing, both took business classes at Indiana. Mr. Wagner majored in accounting and Mr. Cuban earned a business degree.

Mr. Cuban went on to start a systems-integration company in 1983, called Microsolutions Inc., that he sold to on-line service CompuServe Corp. in 1990.

Mr. Wagner, meanwhile, earned a law degree and was a law-firm partner from 1992 to 1994.

The pair launched a company called AudioNet Inc. in 1995 with backing from Intel Corp. and Motorola Inc. After changing its name to Broadcast.com, they took it public last July at a split-adjusted \$9 a share. The shares, which since have soared as high as \$144.75,

rose \$11.8125 Thursday to \$130.

The Dallas-based company gained a broad audience last year when it aired the deposition by President Bill Clinton that concerned his relationship with Monica Lewinsky, the former White House intern. It also reaped new visitors

Mr. Cuban should get \$1.28 billion from the Yahoo! deal, and Mr. Wagner \$683 million.

as World Wide Web host of a lingerie fashion show featuring models and attire from Intimate Brands Inc.'s Victoria's Secret.

Broadcast.com also offers other entertainment, such as live feeds of more than 350 radio stations and dozens of television stations. It has exclusive Internet broadcast rights for many of the stations, with the aim of making money by selling ads that appear when users view or listen to the material on-line.

Most observers agree that on-line multimedia, entertainment and news

will only really take off once high-speed Internet access becomes widely available, which could take a few years.

Likewise, Broadcast.com's real success so far has come less from entertaining Web surfers than from helping corporate customers with broadcasting events such as product introductions and conference calls to far-flung audiences. Broadcast.com derived 62 percent of its \$22.4 million in revenue from business services in 1998, compared with 58 percent of \$9.15 million in 1997.

The company's client list includes computer makers Silicon Graphics Inc. and Dell Computer Corp., and Harvard University.

"When Hillary Clinton or Yasser Arafat come to the Kennedy School, there are a lot of people who are interested in what they have to say, but can't make it to Cambridge," said Miranda Daniloff, a Harvard spokeswoman.

Corporate customers also benefit because their audience listens in mainly from work, with high-speed connections that make the downloads faster.

While analysts say that Broadcast.com has the early lead in providing entertainment and corporate events on the Internet, they also are monitoring the competition.

RealNetworks Inc., for example, which makes the dominant software program for accessing audio and video on-line, has begun to integrate multimedia entertainment and news into its RealPlayer page. Another competitor is InterVU Inc., which helps companies transmit video and audio from their Web sites.

The shares of RealNetworks and InterVU soared Thursday on optimism that they could be purchased next, amid continuing consolidation among Internet-related companies.

Many smaller companies, such as San Francisco-based WebCast Solutions, also are targeting the corporate market.

"The whole market is just now starting up," said Cory Smith, WebCast's chief executive. "Even though Broadcast.com has captured a section of the pie, the pie is growing so fast that no one can capture the whole thing."

Dollar Rises As Funds Leave Japan

Bloomberg News

NEW YORK — The dollar edged higher against the yen Friday as the flow of money out of the country triggered by Japanese investors seeking higher yields abroad outweighed renewed foreign interest in Japanese assets.

After months of shunning Japanese investments as the country suffers its

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

worst recession in 50 years, portfolio managers are starting to ease back into Japanese markets. The benchmark stock Nikkei stock average has risen about 17 percent in the past month.

"The main driving force behind the yen is the flow of funds both into and out of Japan," said Allison Montgomery, a currency analyst at IDEA. "The flow into Japan as investors re-weight their portfolios is dominating" and will keep the dollar from rising above 121 yen in the coming week, she said.

In late New York trading, the dollar rose to 120.505 yen from 120.470 yen Thursday. The euro edged up against the dollar, rising to \$1.0795 from \$1.0792. The pound rose to \$1.6035 from \$1.6033. The dollar rose to 1.4805 Swiss francs from 1.4800 francs. Trading was thin because many markets were closed for a holiday.

Very briefly:

•Ninety-three percent of U.S. banks now charge people for the use of their automated teller machines, up from 71 percent a year ago, according to a survey by U.S. Public Interest Research Group.

•The Stanley Works, the U.S. hand-tool maker, will cut 400 jobs at a plant in New Britain, Connecticut, as it moves certain hardware lines to more efficient plants in North America and Asia.

•TheStreet.com Inc., an Internet financial site, plans to sell 5.5 million common shares for \$11 to \$13 in its initial public offering. The company is selling shares to expand its financial news Web site and attract more readers.

•Gillette Co. has filed to register 25.6 million shares for sale by Kohlberg, Kravis, Roberts & Co., a step that will reduce the buyout group's stake in the Boston razor maker by half and bring it to about \$1.52 billion. AP, Bloomberg

COHEN: After J. Peterman Sinks, Executive Is Described There as a 'Serial Killer'

Continued from Page 9

that Mr. Cohen made mistakes during the catalogue company's rapid expansion into store-based retailing. For example, Mr. Cohen signed long and expensive leases for outlets that the associate says were too big to display merchandise effectively. To this day, the source says, several J. Crew stores have to wall off and leave unused large sections of floor space.

Still, it was only when he had the opportunity to run a business unchecked by a powerful overseer like Mr. Cinar that he ran into serious trouble. Mr. Cohen took the helm of London Fog Co. in September 1993, when the company, a venerable Maryland-based raincoat

maker, was facing a slow decline. Mr. Cohen, hired to give the staid brand a jolt, promised a turnaround, including a doubling of sales to \$700 million from \$350 million in three years. He set about cutting costs by, among other things, closing five American factories.

While that move was necessary, former colleagues say, he moved too quickly, causing quality and delivery glitches. Mr. Cohen would not comment on the record about the transformation, but even his allies said it was not well paid.

"Arnie has great ideas," said Chris Fiore, who worked under him at London Fog. "He needs to learn patience. Organizations just cannot absorb all the initiatives that he wants to accomplish on his schedule."

At the same time, Mr. Cohen began another unusual policy, a notable instance, former colleagues say, of his assertiveness. He forbade stores to mark down the brand's merchandise until Dec. 8 of that year, saying his aim was to re-establish London Fog's elite image. But the move infuriated retailers, who traditionally do their best raincoat business during promotions around Thanksgiving. William Crain, who was part of

the team that came in to resuscitate the company from near-death a year later, said the policy "clearly alienated the trade."

Bob Grayson, a retail veteran on the board of London Fog as well as a personal friend of Mr. Cohen's from Westport, Connecticut, argues that the company was in worse shape when Mr. Cohen took over than anybody knew.

"Critical financial information was not made available to the new management," he said.

But Mr. Cohen took some of the blame. Eleven months later, with London Fog hemorrhaging cash and its debt swollen to \$425 million, Mr. Cohen was out of the company. He quickly rebounded, though not to the same heights. He was hired in the spring of 1994 by Today's Man Inc. as executive vice president for merchandising and marketing.

When Cohen arrived, Today's Man was booming. Less than two years later, in February 1996, it filed for bankruptcy. Certainly, there were forces at work well beyond Mr. Cohen's control, including a poor retail season in 1995 and an over-expansion that began before Mr. Cohen's tenure. Still, executives at the company say he was a key mover behind

decisions that resulted in inflated advertising budgets and ballooning inventory.

Mr. Cohen was out again by spring 1996. He started shopping around for a company and made a bid for a job at J. Peterman. It turned him down at first, but after a year of negotiations, J. Peterman hired him to be president and chief operating officer. The company's sales, which had been rising steadily, were \$65 million in 1997, but the poorly run firm had almost never made a profit.

He envisioned raising sales to \$90 million by the end of 1998 by expanding into as many as 70 retail outlets. To reach this explosive goal he spent lavishly, especially for a company as small as J. Peterman. He hired a slew of expensive executives, paying six-figure salaries in addition to pricey fees to headhunters. He himself earned \$500,000 a year in salary plus \$1 million in stock options, which are now worthless.

Mr. Cohen now works as a retail consultant. He says he has clients but declined to list any. He said that he was "disappointed" with how J. Peterman turned out. "But," he added, with characteristic optimism, "I think it was a learning opportunity."

Japan Rebuffs U.S. on Trade

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — A U.S. government report that said China, the European Union and Japan had not done enough to dismantle trade barriers was sharply criticized Friday by Tokyo as "unilateral and erroneous."

The report, issued Thursday by the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, said Washington would "continue to press Japan to implement further concrete deregulation measures."

Trade Minister Kaoru Yosano of Japan said the report was "dotted with unilateral and erroneous descriptions."

Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi said he was concerned about Washington's reinstatement of the so-called Super 301 trade weapon, which allows the United States to take retaliatory action against countries deemed unfair trade partners. (AP, AP)

THE INTERMARKET

FOR EUROPE +44 171 510 5748
FOR THE AMERICAS 1-800 572 7212
FOR ASIA +852 2922 1188

FRIENDSHIPS

Friendships

EARLY RETIRED AMERICAN 55, living in Florida with two dogs, fishing, golfing, tennis, etc. Seeking a companion European lady 25-35, good cook, non-smoker, intelligent, warm, who wants to live in Florida for some pleasant times. Please write with picture. WTH, PO 34271, Pensacola, FLA 32507-4271, or FAX: 850-492-4788 or E Mail: JAYROSCOTT@AOL.COM

GERMAN LADY: Located at Pacific Coast Motor Resort, Tall, Attractive, 56 yrs. old, Spoken, Well-Traveled, Single, Healthy, Successful Businesswoman, Send Letter/Photo to Box 182, L.H.T., 850 Third Ave., 10th floor, New York, NY, 10022, USA.

YOUNG LADIES WORLDWIDE seek relationships. Send photos and resumes. Box 610789E, D-10022 Berlin, Fax: +49-30-2529775

2 BEAUTIFUL YOUNG ladies students from Mexico, want to meet businessmen for relationship. Tel: +52-55-5229775

BUSINESSMAN, TRAVELING and caring seeks attractive, devoted girlfriend for relationship. Tel: +1 770 617 782

See Monday's Intermarket for Recruitment, Education, Secretarial, Insurance Services. To advertise contact Sarah, Wexford on +44 171 510 5748 or Fax +44 171 987 3462

A GREAT DEAL HAPPENS AT THE INTERMARKET

WORLDWIDE ELITE

Since 1975 we arrange marriages...

Meaningful, esteemed & acknowledged WORLD-ELITE from:

ARGENTINA - AUSTRALIA - AUSTRIA - BAHAMAS
BELGIUM - BERLINA - BRAZIL - CZECH REPUBLIC
DENMARK - GERMANY - ENGLAND - FRANCE - GREECE
GUAM - HOLLAND - HONGKONG - IRELAND - ITALY
JAMAICA - JAPAN - CANADA - KOREA - LABUAN
LUXEMBOURG - MALAYSIA - MARBELLA - MONACO
NORWAY - PHILIPPINES - PORTUGAL - SCOTLAND
SINGAPORE - SOUTH AFRICA - SPAIN - SWEDEN
SWITZERLAND - THAILAND - UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - VIRGIN ISLANDS...

TRUST YOUR PRECIOUS PRIVACY TO THOSE WHO LIVE YOUR DIMENSION!

Germany • 82031 Munich-Grünwald • Otto-Heilmann • Str. 5 •

Represented in Paris • Berlin • the USA • Singapore • Melbourne

gabrielle thiers-bense

...to the best in international society

trusting this intensive experience, our unsurpassed *niche* & EXPRESS, "FOREVER" (quote) THEIR GRATITUDE

SENSATIONAL ITALIAN INDUSTRIALIST WIDOW

Who ever is not captivated by this rare blond thoroughbred

woman, can't be helped. I slender 5'7", strikingly feminine,

very sportive & of aristocratic sophistication, early forty. An

exquisite beauty & best reputation inside-member of the

EXCLUSIVE INTERNATIONAL SUPREMACY SOCIETY, at home in

New York, San Francisco & Miami, in Monte Carlo, Paris, the

French Riviera & of course in Italy. As all of our many

IMMENSELY WEALTHY clients, she is definitely spoilt &

fascinating, but never unproductive, a creative multi-talented

woman, by knowledge, education & activities ranging from the

World Bank, to the most exclusive of the elite. If you have ever

had cause to intimately admire a First Class Italian Lady of this

calibre, then you know now who she is to be enticed by you on

this planet's most demanding stage! FOR MARRIAGE ONLY!

We will be delighted to receive your call!

Exclusively for you... by appointment only 11-19hrs

Tel: +49 - 89 - 649-2205 Fax: +49 - 89 - 649-2224

MARRIAGE MEDIATION

...to the best in international society

trusting this intensive experience, our unsurpassed *niche* & EXPRESS, "FOREVER" (quote) THEIR GRATITUDE

SENSATIONAL ITALIAN INDUSTRIALIST WIDOW

Who ever is not captivated by this rare blond thoroughbred

woman, can't be helped. I slender 5'7", strikingly feminine,

very sportive & of aristocratic sophistication, early forty. An

exquisite beauty & best reputation inside-member of the

EXCLUSIVE INTERNATIONAL SUPREMACY SOCIETY, at home in

New York, San Francisco & Miami, in Monte Carlo, Paris, the

French Riviera & of course in Italy. As all of our many

IMMENSELY WEALTHY clients, she is definitely spoilt &

fascinating, but never unproductive, a creative multi-talented

woman, by knowledge, education & activities ranging from the

World Bank, to the most exclusive of the elite. If you have ever

had cause to intimately admire a First Class Italian Lady of this

calibre, then you know now who she is to be enticed by you on

this planet's most demanding stage! FOR MARRIAGE ONLY!

We will be delighted to receive your call!

Exclusively for you... by appointment only 11-19hrs

Tel: +49 - 89 - 649-2205 Fax: +49 - 89 - 649-2224

25 yrs Claudia Püschel-Kries Ltd. The favorite superior partnership agency - the concept for the world's most select circles

Our distinguished clientele: Society's best educated an cultured personalities, the business elite and international "Very Important Persons"

"He - a Man of the Top of Society... Late 40s/50s, belonging to the international elite of finance and business (European with American citizenship), elegant, superior, charismatic, dark-complexioned type, generous, fair, and full of character, with "noble veneer" and style, he is wonderfully affectionate, sensitive and a friend of gentle manners, his passion is for riding and thoroughbred horses, patron of a fantastic riding stable, polo player, golfer, an connoisseur and collector, humorous, tender, all in all a cultured gentleman and man of the world... divorced, he is looking for "the" adequate woman at his side: a real top woman with class, elegance, style and also of the top set: luxury-loving, sportive and ladylike, gladly up to mid 40s... Even if you are very "choosy" and love your independent and interesting life, you will miss the partner, the man with whom you can laugh, talk and happily share all the vicissitudes of life, the man who can offer you the setting you are used to - the brilliant man of stature at your side! We have got him!

Does that appeal to you? Please call us for an appointment daily from 3 to 7 p.m., also Sat/Sun

Head offices - Europe, Germany: Munich T(0049) 89-291-854-27 or Frankfurt T(0049) 69-242-77-154 or Düsseldorf T(0049) 211-329-357 or Berlin T(0049) 30-88-550-531

EDITH BRIGITTA FAHRENKROG

THE INT'L PARTNERSHIP AGENCY IN EUROPE

MATCHING THE RIGHT PARTNERS IS MY BUSINESS. PERSONAL, HONEST, ASSISTANCE IN MY SERVICE. CONFIDENCE IS MY NUMBER ONE VOW.

FRANKFURT HEAD OFFICE: DAILY 3-7 PM

60316 FRANKFURT, ELKENBACHSTR. 51, GERMANY

TEL: +49-69-43 19 73, FAX: +49-69-43 20 66

LONDON MAYFAIR OFFICE: MON - FRI 9 AM - 6 PM

LONDON W1X 8PD, MAYFAIR, STRATTON STREET 10

TEL: +44-171-546 85 43, FAX: +44-171-546 85 70

PARIS PARIS OFFICE: MON - FRI 9 AM - 6 PM

PARIS 75008, 72 RUE DE FAUBOURG-ST-HONORE

TEL: +33-1-40 07 86 87, FAX: +33-1-40 07 80 40

NEW YORK U.S. OFFICE: MON - FRI 9 AM - 4 PM

NEW YORK, NY 10019, 730 FIFTH AVENUE, 9TH FLOOR

TEL: (212) 333-87 85, FAX: (212) 333-87 20

EXCLUSIVE INDIVIDUAL CONFIDENTIAL

PERSONAL APPOINTMENTS ARE POSSIBLE IN: ROME - GENEVA - VIENNA - MILAN - LOS ANGELES - SINGAPORE - HONG-KONG

A YOUNG, SMART AND ENCHANTING BEAUTY...

SHE IS EYE-CATCHING - IN HER EARLY 30S, WITH LONG, BLOND HAIR, BLUE EYES, A MODEL-LIKE FIGURE, GREAT STYLE AND EXQUISITE TASTE, A GORGEOUS EUROPEAN LADY, CAPTIVATING BY HER YOUTHFUL CHARM, REMINING GRACE AND FASCINATING BEAUTY, AN ENCHANTING AND LOVABLE PERSONALITY, VERY ELEGANT AND REFINED, SHE HAS A HIGH-LEVEL EDUCATION - A SUCCESSFUL AND REMARKABLE BUSINESS CAREER - IS USED TO TRAVEL WORLDWIDE, LOVES MANY SPORT ACTIVITIES: SAUNING, SKIING, TENNIS, ETC. A REPRESENTATIVE AND HAPPY PERSON WITH A GREAT SMILE AND LAUGH, RESPECTING VALUES AND PRINCIPLES OF LIFE, A RAVENING LADY, SHE WOULD LIKE TO SHARE THE BEAUTY OF LIFE WITH A

A PROMINENT AMERICAN DIRECTOR AND PRODUCER IN THE INT'L FILM BUSINESS...

A BRILLIANT PERSONALITY, VERY ATTRACTIVE, HANDSOME, ATHLETIC AND MASCULINE - EARLY 30S, WITH A WONDERFUL METAPHYSICAL CHARM AND CHARMING SMILE, HE IS A GENTLEMAN AND VERY AFFECTIONATE MAN WITH A GREAT PASSION FOR LIFE AND HAS A UNIQUE SENSE OF HUMOR. HE OWNS MARVELOUS RESIDENCES (WITH STAFF) IN THE WEST COAST AND IN THE SOUTH OF EUROPE. HE TRAVELS FREQUENTLY, CULTURAL EVENTS, SPORTS AND ENTERTAINING. GETTING TO KNOW LIFE WITH AN ENCHANTING LADY, WHO UNDERSTANDS HIS NEEDS FOR PRIVACY.

AN ENCHANTING LADY - AN OUTSTANDING CAREER...

A BRIGHT AND FASCINATING EUROPEAN BEAUTY...

A PH.D. ATTORNEY AT LAW - EARLY 30S, A RADIANTLY BEAMING APPEARANCE WITH KEENED ELEGANCE AND GRACE, A CHARMING PERSONALITY, ENTHUSIASTIC AND POWERFUL, WITH AN EXCELLENT INTERNATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL BACKGROUND (UNIVERSITY DEGREE), A FASCINATING BEAUTY, A REAL LADY FULL OF VITALITY, WHO LOVES SPORT ACTIVITIES, CULTURAL EVENTS AND IS OPEN FOR EVERYTHING NEW. A WOMAN OF GREAT TENDERNMENT, VERY GENUINE, TENDER AND STRONG WITH GREAT SENSE FOR TRADITION. SHE IS FINE AND DESERVES TO LIVE EVERYWHERE WITH THE RIGHT PARTNER UP TO HIS LATE 30S.

PLEASE CALL

GENERAL

MONACO GRAND PRINCE

Terraces, Accommodation, Tours, VIP and Corporate Services

ARALT TRAVEL LTD

Monaco - Edinburgh

Tel: +44 131 475 2398

www.f1monaco.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Australian Government has a Business Skills Migration program

Please send enquiries to: fax +49-228-373145

www.australian-embassy.de

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

For any viable projects worldwide.

Fax brief synopsis in English to: Corporate Advances UK on +44-7070-658080

Aircraft Chartering and Leasing

FROM LEAR-JET TO JUMBO-JET.

Cargo and passenger aircraft available worldwide from Europe's number 1.

Fax: +49/69/59 80 39 10 Fax: +49/69/59 80 39 39

e-mail: uchaer@aol.com

chapman freeborn

More than 40 offices worldwide

REAL ESTATE

16th - Near M° Pompee

High class Prestige building, splendid 345 sqm, apartment, 3rd floor, nice layout, very sunny, open view. Master's rooms, cellars. Work to be done. For sale, price in negotiation. Tel: owner

PARIS: +33 (0)1 47 27 78 29

FINANCIAL SERVICES

Funding Problems?

Fax: +44-208-923-8254

1632 310-8254

www.bac.com.uk

Real Estate for Sale

Italy

VENICE 120 sqm restored first floor flat on canal near Santa Church. Very light, quiet. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, 10 sun, modern. Storage room, private sale.

+390415231228 +39038828196 E-mail: mario-mario@tiscali

French Provinces

BUY WITHOUT COMMISSION

Free-estate regularly, at your home, a selection of real estate corresponding to your demand. La Paroisse Européenne 34957 Boulevard de la France, France. Fax: +33(0)1 47 27 78 29

French Riviera

CAP FERRAT'S

MOST BEAUTIFUL WATERFRONT

King Leopold's exquisitely restored 500 sqm, "palace" near Grand Hotel. 5 vast bedrooms, self house, 5.000 sqm, land, direct access on sea. Call P. McEwen

EUROPE

Salomon Aims to Rebuild European Investment Bank

By Juliana Ratner
Bloomberg News

LONDON — Michael Klein, a managing director of Salomon Smith Barney Inc., sat in a room for 10 days straight with three other executives a year-and-a-half ago to negotiate what the merged investment banks of Salomon Brothers Inc. and Smith Barney Inc. would look like.

Hammering out a blueprint for the firm now called Salomon Smith Barney should help him get this European investment bank, a subsidiary of Citigroup Inc., on track after a series of high-level departures weakened its position.

Mr. Klein, 35, and Edward Miller, 36, this week were named co-heads of European investment banking.

"There is a clear amount of opportunity here in Europe to build a world-class investment bank," said Mr. Klein, who will also co-manage the part of Smith Barney that caters to financial buyers such as Kohlberg, Kravis, Roberts & Co.

Salomon Smith Barney is aiming to be No. 1 or No. 2 in all its businesses, he said, including European investment banking.

The pair have a long way to go. In the first quarter, Salomon did not rank among the top 10 advisers to European companies in mergers and acquisitions. Last year it ranked second. The slide in rankings came as European transactions accounted for 41 percent of worldwide merger activity, the most since the third quarter of 1992, according to preliminary data from Securities Data Corp.

Salomon Smith Barney did manage a few big transactions, such as Vivendi SA's \$7.9 billion acquisition of U.S. Filter Corp., which Salomon advised. Salomon was also the top underwriter of Eurobonds so far this year, according to Bloomberg analysts.

Still, the departure of senior bankers has hurt. In the first quarter, Salomon Smith Barney lost the head of its equity capital

markets, a banker overseeing relationships with financial institutions, the head of its Russia and emerging markets units, and executives working with German and Spanish companies.

Mr. Klein and Mr. Miller, both of whom are managing directors

In the first quarter, Salomon did not rank among the top 10 advisers to European companies in mergers and acquisitions.

and members of the firm's investment bank management committee, take the European group's administrative duties from Ronald Freeman. Mr. Freeman and James Boshart will continue as co-chief executives of the European investment bank.

Mr. Klein and Mr. Miller, whose appointments are effective immediately, plan to focus on the staffing issues.

"The key thing for these guys is to stem the recent turnover," said Giles Simons, an executive recruiter. "These two guys want to get a clear message to the marketplace what their direction is, and the rest will follow."

Last month, Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette Inc. hired two Salomon bankers, Richard Board and Michael Meinhardt, to be co-heads of a group that caters to European financial institutions.

Lehman Brothers Holding Inc. this week hired Tim Lindberg from Salomon as executive director in charge of Nordic equity capital markets. He will report to another Salomon alumnus, John St. John, co-head of global equity capital markets.

Miguel Salis, whom Salomon named managing director for Spanish corporate finance in December, left two months later to become president of a Spanish telecommunications company, James Dannis, head of Russia and emerging markets, and Joanna Meager, head of

Salomon's euro conversion project, also resigned.

"Am I concerned about the people who left before we got here? Absolutely," Mr. Miller said, but he said he was confident the team was strong and would not have trouble hiring more people. Salomon "wants to pick the team to work for the next 10 or 20 years, not just the next few years," Mr. Klein said.

Mr. Miller has been at the firm almost as long as Mr. Klein has been alive. He is a past chairman, chief executive officer and president of Smith Barney International. Before that he ran Smith Barney's Paris office.

Mr. Freeman, who turned over some of his responsibilities to Mr. Miller and Mr. Klein, has been co-CEO of Salomon Smith Barney's European business for less than a year. He returned to Salomon in June 1997 after six years with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Previously, he worked for Salomon for 18 years in New York and London.

Very briefly:

•RAO Unified Energy Systems, Russia's national electric utility, and RWE AG, Germany's No. 2 utility, signed a cooperation agreement that may help increase exports of Russian electricity to western Europe.

•United Pan-European Communications NV, a Dutch cable company, has agreed to buy Time Warner Entertainment's three French cable systems for \$71 million, gaining 64,000 subscribers.

•Groupe SEB SA, a maker of home appliances, is seeking shareholder authorization to buy back up to 5 percent of its stock. The company said one of the aims of the buyback was to grant shares to employees and stabilize its share price.

•General Electric Capital Corp., and Banco Portugues de Investimento SA are to acquire a combined 45 percent in the Romanian state-run bank Banc Post SA.

•Belgium's unemployment rate fell to 11.7 percent in March from 12 percent in February.

•Synergon Informatikai, a Hungarian computer system integration firm, set a maximum price of 3,250 forint (\$13.67) per share for its initial public offering later this month.

•Setta SA, a French tobacco company, is to close a factory and shut two distribution centers as demand wanes for heavy, dark-tobacco cigarettes.

•Laurus NV, a Dutch food retailer, said net income rose to 213 million guilders (\$104 million) in 1998 from 192 million guilders in 1997 as acquisitions in Spain contributed to growth in operating profit.

Bloomberg, Reuters

Bayer Sets \$8.1 Billion for U.S.

Agence France-Press

LEVERKUSEN, Germany — Bayer AG plans to invest \$8.1 billion in the United States over a five-year period beginning next year, a company spokesman said.

Of the total, \$5.1 billion will be devoted to research into animal, plant and human health, with the remainder being spent on production, the spokesman said late Thursday.

The plan extends an investment program begun in 1995 and means that by the end of 2004, Bayer will have spent \$15 billion in the United States, the company's second largest market after Europe.

In the next two years Bayer intends to launch a series of drugs in the United States to treat hemophilia, infections and acute heart disorders, said the spokesman, Michael Preuss.

Paris Sets Conditions for Credit Lyonnais Sale

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — The government, seeking a safe start for Credit Lyonnais in the private sector, said Friday that any companies interested in the bank would have to buy into it for at least two years, and preferably four.

The Finance Ministry is offering a maximum 33 percent stake in the bank to what it describes as the "shareholder-partner" group to be created in the first stage of the privatization. Each of those shareholders will be limited to a maximum 10 percent.

Paris said in a statement that successful bidders would have to maintain their stake, without raising or lowering it, for two years, and that if they wished to sell out, they would be bound in the next two years to sell to others in the shareholder-partner group.

It also said the shareholder-partners, which are expected to form a "strong and stable" base for the bank, would be asked to contribute to a capital increase of 8 billion French francs (\$13.3 billion) to reinforce Credit Lyonnais' financial position.

The Finance Ministry said the procedure had been adopted "in the interests of the state and taxpayer, and of the company and its employees." The government gave its official approval to the privatization plan on March 14, but the details of the plan, due to be completed in June, were still subject to approval by the privatization commission.

The state plans to keep 10 percent of the bank, which was the largest in Europe before a string of ruinous

investments at the end of the 1980s pushed it to the brink of collapse, requiring several multibillion-dollar bailouts at taxpayers' expense.

The rescue, including a slimming-down, has cost an estimated 120 billion francs and makes the sale politically sensitive for the Socialist-led government, which also plans to reserve up to 10 percent of the floated stock for sale to the bank's employees. France promised to privatize Credit Lyonnais in exchange for European Commission approval of the bailouts.

By setting up a group of core

shareholders at the outset, the government has said it aims to give the bank a few years' breathing space to continue its recovery and then choose an alliance partner from a position of strength.

Several banks have expressed interest in bidding for stakes, including the French mutual bank Credit Agricole SA, the insurer Axa SA, Allianz AG of Germany, Commerzbank AG, Societe Generale SA and Paribas SA.

Potential shareholder-partners have until April 28 to make their offers, which will be selected based

on financial, industrial, strategic and competitive criteria, the Finance Ministry said. It also said the offers' impact on jobs would be taken into account.

The bank's chairman, Jean Peyrelevade, has estimated its value at between 35 billion and 40 billion francs, of which the state could realize 25 billion to 30 billion francs through the share sale.

The bank reported 1998 net attributable profit of 165 million euros (\$176 million), compared with 54 million euros in 1997.

(Reuters, AFP)

Gucci Group Faces Fight Over Shares

Bloomberg News

PARIS — Minority shareholders of Gucci Group NV may ask an Amsterdam court to challenge the company's move to sell shares to Pinault-Printemps-Redoute SA, arguing the move dilutes their stake and deprives them of a full-blown bidding war, a French shareholder activist said Friday.

Colette Neville, acting on behalf of unidentified Gucci shareholders, said that under a European directive about capital increases, the sale of 39 million new shares to Pinault, to fend off advances by LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton SA, violates Gucci shareholder rights. LVMH owns 20 percent of Gucci.

She added, "We're surprised that Gucci, quoted in New York and Amsterdam, could increase its capital without ever going to shareholders and without bringing in outside experts."

A Gucci spokesman said the right to issue shares was approved by shareholders in 1995. A Pinault executive said the capital increase "completely respected Dutch law and was done in accordance with the European directive."

BNP to Buy Back its Shares at Top Price

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — Banque Nationale de Paris, which has initiated hostile all-stock bids to buy two rivals, plans to buy back up to 10 percent of its capital to help stabilize its share price, the French stock market regulator, COB, said Friday.

BNP said it would buy back shares at a maximum price of 120 euros (\$129), considerably higher than Thursday's closing price of 80 euros. The Paris stock market was closed Friday for the Easter holiday.

BNP does not own any of its own shares, and the buyback cannot begin until its \$38 billion bids for Societe Generale SA and Paribas SA close in May.

The hostile bids, which would

create the only bank in the world with \$1 trillion in assets, came in the middle of an agreed \$19 billion bid by Societe Generale for Paribas. All the bids are share swaps.

In an interview published Friday in the French daily Le Figaro, BNP's chief executive, Michel Peberne, repeated his willingness to meet with the management of the target banks and hammer out an agreement.

"I wholeheartedly hope that the period of our offer will permit a rapprochement between the points of view of all the parties concerned, taking into account the interests of each company," Mr. Peberne said. "I am ready, for my part, for a dialogue to improve our plan."

The boards of Paribas and Societe

Generale are scheduled to meet Tuesday to respond to the BNP bid.

Analysts said they expected the two companies to refuse BNP's bid and continue trying to thwart it.

Societe Generale and Paribas have until mid-May to come up with a countermove, but analysts said they thought the two companies would have trouble coming up with the money to outflank BNP and would have to compromise.

"BNP's offer has been tactically well played," said Didier Izabel, head of mergers and acquisitions at Cie. Financiere Edmond de Rothschild Banque. "If SocGen makes a sweetened offer for Paribas, their own shares could fall and that would make BNP's offer even more attractive."

(AFP, Bloomberg)

THE INTERMARKET

GENERAL

Real Estate for Rent

Switzerland

GENEVA, LUXURY FURNISHED apartments from studios to 4 bedrooms. Tel: +41 22 735 6320 Fax: +41 22 735 2671

Personals

MAY THE SACRED HEART of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved, and preserved throughout the world, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, Worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, Helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Amen. M.B. Thank you Sacred Heart of Jesus & Saint Jude for prayers answered. H.A.

Personals

THANK YOU SACRED HEART of Jesus & Saint Jude for special prayers answered. D.W.

Announcements

HERALD TRIBUNE SUBSCRIBER CUSTOMER SERVICE: For questions or queries about the delivery of your newspaper, the status of your subscription or about ordering a subscription, please call the following numbers:

EUROPE, MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA: TOLL FREE - Australia 0800 8120 84; Belgium 0800 4 448 7827; Denmark 0800 4 448 7827; France 0800 4 448 7827; Germany 0800 4 448 7827; Greece 0800 32 12 15 10; Ireland 0800 4 448 7827; Israel (toll free) 03 5121730; Italy 167 78040; Luxembourg 0800 2703; Netherlands 0800 4 448 7827; Norway 0800 4 448 7827; Sweden 0800 4 448 7827; Switzerland 0800 4 448 7827; Taiwan (toll free) 1-800-882284; Eindhoven (toll free) 1-800-882284; Hong Kong 2822 1171; Indonesia (0221) 71782001; Japan (toll free) 0120 464 027; Korea 3872 0044; Malaysia (03) 9812141; Philippines 895 4946; Singapore 252 0835; Taiwan 775359; Thailand 277 4486; elsewhere (0822) 28221171.

WORLD PASSPORT, 40 Pages, 7 languages based on Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Volume 13 (2), issued by the WORLD SERVICE AUTHORITY, Washington D.C. 20005. Call 202-899-2882 or download application from www.worldservice.org. Don't leave home without one!

FEELING low? Having problems? SOS! HELP while in English. From 9PM to 11PM. Tel: Paris +33 (0)1 47 23 80 80

Auto Rentals

RENT AUTO DENIS FRANCE: Weekend FR800 - 7 days: FR900. Tel: Paris +33 (0)1 4383 5555. Fax: (0)1 4383 8229

Auto Shipping

SAVE ON CAR SHIPPING. AMESCO, Lakeside 2, Kansas City, Mo. Tel: (816) 451-1234. Fax: (816) 451-1234. Free home. Tel: 800-251-4288. Fax: 226-4533

Autos Tax Free

25 YEARS OCEANWIDE MOTORS worldwide supply of tax-free cars. ALDI Motors, 25000, P.O. Box 100, Germany. Tel: +49-211-483831. Fax: +49-211-44 93822. e-mail: info@oceandrive.de

Autos Tax Free

new TAX-FREE used ALL LEADING MAKES Same day registration possible minimum 1000 to 5 years. We also register cars with (optional) foreign (tax-free) plates

KZKOWITS

Alfred Eicher Street 10, CH-8002 Zurich Tel: 01222 76 10. Fax: 01222 76 30

ATK WORLDWIDE TAX FREE CARS

Export new and used LHD / RHD cars. Terminals: 40, 2830 Antwerp, Belgium. Phone: +32-3-645.50.02. Fax: +32-3-645.71.00. E-mail: atk.belgium@atkworldwide.com Since 1959.

Legal Services

DIVORCE IN 1 DAY. No travel. Write: Box 377, Sudbury, MA 01776 USA. Tel: 978/449-8387. Fax: 978/449-0183

Colleges & Universities

EARN UNIVERSITY degrees utilizing work, life & academic experience. For evaluation & information forward resume to: Pacific Southern University, 9581 W. Pico Blvd., Dept. 121 Los Angeles, CA 90035 USA

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The Original **callback** New Lower Rates! Call the U.S. from: France.....20c Germany.....21c Italy.....25c Japan.....21c U.K.....15c

No Deposit • No Minimum No Set Up Fees • No VAT Instant Activation Itemized & Second Billing 24-Hour Customer Service Agents call 1.206.479.2816

1.206.376.1962 U.S. 1.206.376.1962 Fax: 1.206.376.1963 www.callback.com Email: info@callback.com

Business Opportunities

OFFSHORE COMPANIES: For free brochure or advice Tel: London 44 181 741 1224 Fax: 44 181 748 6558/6538 www.offshore.co.uk

FOR LEGAL TITLE OF MOBILITY contact: International New Firm Europe-Tel: +33.081.0701274

Business Services

YOUR OFFICE IN LONDON Bond Street - Mail, Phone, Fax, Telex Tel: 44 171 250 9000 Fax: 44 171 499 7517

Escorts & Guides

HIGH SOCIETY The Most Prestigious Escort Agency Executive Service Worldwide Genuine Fashion, Glamour & Calm Models Sophisticated, Intelligent, Daring Ladies HQ in London. Established in Germany. Essex, Milan, USA. Tel: +44 (0) 171 266 1033 or +44 (0) 7000 444476

MODEL LINK

FORGET ALL YOU FELT BEFORE IMAGINE SOMETHING DIFFERENT +44 (0) 7000 822 822 The different escort company

BRUSSELS ESCORT AGENCY

Tel: +32 216 18 80 Tel: +32 216 18 19 Selection from photo book

ESCORT SERVICE SWITZERLAND

ONLY TOP LADIES, 24 hrs. All cards credit. Travel Service Worldwide Zurich +41 (0) 407 0801

BEAUTIFUL & NEW ORIGINAL

From Philippines/Malaysia & Thailand. For dinner & dancing UK 0788 7088 578

SWITZERLAND-GERMANY-BELGIUM

+41-20-427 28 27 Zurich-Geneva-Basel-Bern Frankfurt-Wiesbaden-Cologne-Bonn-Bremen-Munich-Hamburg-Berlin-Brussels-Antwerp - Luxembourg - TRAVEL SERVICE WORLDWIDE

LONDON: (0)171-878 6606

COSMOS Escort Agency - Credit Cards ALL EUROPE HEDY'S HIGH SOCIETY Vienna, Paris, Rome, Milan, Zurich, Geneva, Frankfurt, Düsseldorf International Escort & Travel Service Vienna +43-1-535 41 04 all credit cards

Business Travel

1st/2nd/3rd Class Frequent Travellers Worldwide. Up to 50% off. No coupons, no restrictions. Imperial Canada Tel: 1-514-341-7227 Fax: 1-514-341-7998 e-mail: fly@imperialcanada.com http://www.imperialcanada.com

Capital Available

UNLIMITED INT'L FUNDING Business and Project Financing - Venture Capital. Fax: brief project summary: +31 114 680 354 or e-mail: successfund@vsn.nl

Employment

General Positions Wanted

PERSONAL ESCORT, close security, very high services, references, seeks job. Tel: Paris +33 01 68997471 066990747

Educational Positions Available

TRAVELER needs hard, bold, unflinching tutor for 6 yr old daughter. Tel: +33 01 283182 or B.P. 80, Jumeil, Hain, (NW)

Educational Positions Available

EXPERIENCED TOEFL TEACHERS needed immediately for Paris & suburbs. Programs from 20 to 24 hours one hour weekly - blocked hours. Send CV to: Box 877, L.H.T., F-92221, Nanterre Cedex.

Internet address:

http://www.ihk.com

FRIENDSHIPS

SUCCESS. WEALTH. POWER. **LOWELL**

It's unlikely that, when Edward VIII and Wallis Simpson were introduced by a mutual friend, they realised their lives would change forever; after all, there were empires to run.

And what Edward and Wallis knew then, you know now - for successful, wealthy, powerful men and women, love is not easy to find. I know this too. My name is Irene Hoogenhout of Partner Search International.

I also know that, without their wise friend, the meeting that changed the lives of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor may never have happened. Every successful person needs such a friend.

If you are at the peak of your profession and are too busy to meet that special someone, let me be such a friend to you. When you are ready, contact me, and, as an experienced psycho-therapist, I will do my utmost to introduce you to your ideal partner.

For an appointment or a copy of our information pack contact me on:

+44 (0)1624 81 38 60 or +44 (0)1624 81 38 60 E-mail: partnersearch@compuserve.com

London office: 1, Northumberland Avenue Trafalgar Square London WC2N 5BW Tel: +44 (0)171 872 5427

Geneva office: Rue du Rhône 14 1204 Geneva Tel: +41 (0)22 819 18 13

Paris office: Rond Point des Champs Elysees 75008 Paris Tel: +33 (0)1 53 53 16 10

Partner Search International

London office: 1, Northumberland Avenue Trafalgar Square London WC2N 5BW Tel: +44 (0)171 872 5427

Geneva office: Rue du Rhône 14 1204 Geneva Tel: +41 (0)22 819 18 13

Paris office: Rond Point des Champs Elysees 75008 Paris Tel: +33 (0)1 53 53 16 10

Partner Search International

London office: 1, Northumberland Avenue Trafalgar Square London WC2N 5BW Tel: +44 (0)171 872 5427

Geneva office: Rue du Rhône 14 1204 Geneva Tel: +41 (0)22 819 18 13

Paris office: Rond Point des Champs Elysees 75008 Paris Tel: +33 (0)1 53 53 16 10

Partner Search International

London office: 1, Northumberland Avenue Trafalgar Square London WC2N 5BW Tel: +44 (0)171 872 5427

Geneva office: Rue du Rhône 14 1204 Geneva Tel: +41 (0)22 819 18 13

Paris office: Rond Point des Champs Elysees 75008 Paris Tel: +33 (0)1 53 53 16 10

Partner Search International

INDIAN, PERSIAN, DANISH

Glamour models, beautiful, fun, private escort service London: 07870 285311

ITALY PARIS COTE D'AZUR

Escort Service, beautiful, worldwide. Tel: 0039 - (0)347404651 (24/24)

JAN BIK HOLLAND ESCORT CLUB

For the best and the best. Escort service since 1987. Tel: +31(0)20 322 2760/322 3827

JASMIN'S ESCORT SERVICE

LONDON 0171 335 0554 CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

MADRID GLAMOUR

TOP CLASS Escort Service English Before midnight. Tel: +34-913 736 638

MADRID 'HARMONY' BARCELONA

APR 3 1999

E-mail address: moneyrep@iht.com

Website: www.iht.com/IHT/MONEY

ADR Anyone? Foreign Firms Flock to Wall Street to Sell Shares

By Judith Rehak

WITH ALL THE hoopla surrounding the large American stocks that have powered the Standard & Poor's 500 index to four straight years of double-digit gains, investors may be forgiven if they have not spared much thought for the international companies that trade on Wall Street. But those who turn their attention to overseas listings in New York, mostly in the form of American depositary receipts, are in for a surprise.

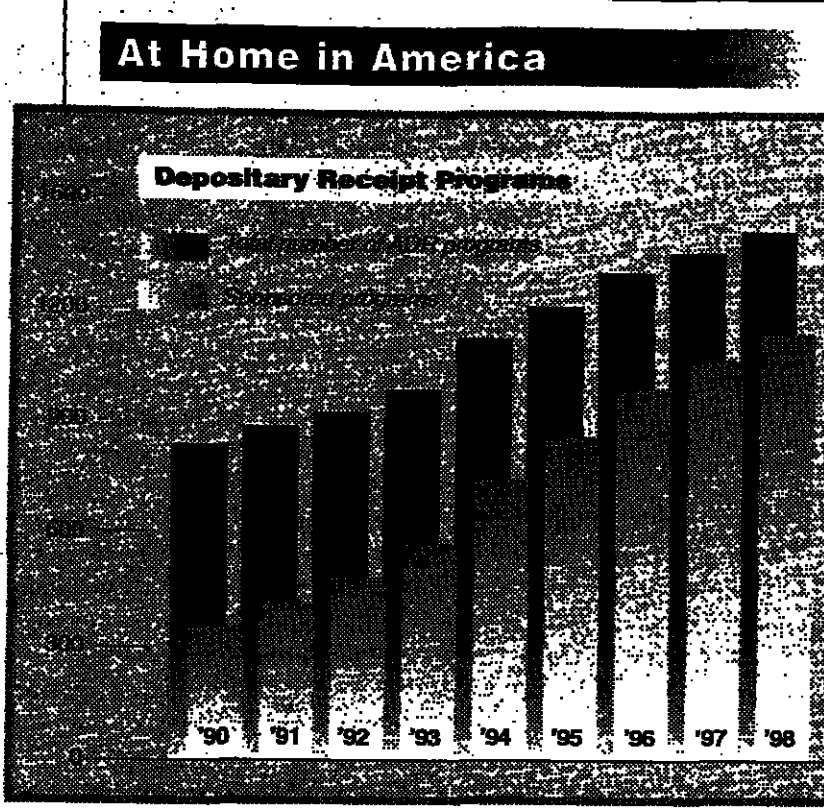
The market for non-American stocks in America is bigger than any national stock market anywhere else. About \$3 trillion of the \$14 trillion of U.S. market capitalization at the end of last year was accounted for by non-American shares. By contrast, the value of stocks in London is about \$2.67 trillion and Japan's market trails with \$2.43 trillion, according to Birinyi Associates in Greenwich, Connecticut.

ADR growth has been substantial in recent years, with 1,415 companies offering the securities, up from 836 in 1990, according to Bank of New York, the largest depository bank for the receipts. Along with its two main rivals, J.P. Morgan & Co. and Citibank, Bank of New York buys blocks of foreign shares and puts them into bank vaults in the issuers' home countries. The stock never leaves its domestic market, but the depositories write receipts for the shares, and these trade in the United States and sometimes on overseas markets as well. Dividends, when paid, are passed to the receipt holders after taxes are deducted in the home country.

In such a big market, there is considerable difference among issues. Most prized are the most liquid ones, those that trade often (a security that you can easily sell is usually worth more than one that you cannot). Often, these are among the 500 or so that are listed on the New York and American stock exchanges or the Nasdaq market. There are three categories of disclosure, ranging from minimal at Level I to the same strict standards as U.S. companies at Level III. By subjecting themselves to American accounting rules, overseas issuers get access to the large pool of capital in the U.S. market.

The listed issues run the gamut from major multinationals such as British Airways PLC and Gucci NV, to new arrivals such as Italy's Ducati Motor Holding SpA. Even among over-the-counter traded shares, there are a few blue-ribbon companies, such as Novartis AG, the Swiss pharmaceutical maker, and Volkswagen AG.

Far less common than ADRs are New York shares, which is stock issued in the United States for American trading. In a class by itself, at least for now, is DaimlerChrysler AG, whose global share is essentially the same stock that exists in



Germany and several other markets.

There are a variety of reasons for overseas companies to list their stock in the United States. For example, there is a multinational contingent on the prowl for American acquisitions. "We see quite a few companies from the U.K. to Germany coming to us because they're contemplating a U.S. listing with the ultimate goal of having shares ready to take advantage of opportunities quickly," said Patrick Colle, vice president of J.P. Morgan & Co.'s London depository receipt group. He noted the surge in stock swap related mergers, such as the blockbuster British Petroleum PLC-Amoco deal of last year.

Fledgling high-technology companies looking to do their initial share flotations make up a second group. Typically, their first stop is Nasdaq, the cradle of high-tech giants and gateway to a market that offers analysts who understand the industry, plus an enthusiastic crowd of individual investors.

Another contributor to the listed ADR universe are companies from new markets, especially Latin America. Despite the seemingly endless series of emerging-markets crises, last year saw the listings of a dozen newly privatized regional telephone companies from Brazil.

For individuals, the ever-expanding choices are accompanied by a new consideration — how best to invest in these companies, considering issues such as availability of research, fees, commis-

sions, and a rapidly emerging alternative, on-line trading in other markets.

Traders and financial advisers agree that there is no blanket answer to this question. It involves weighing issues of liquidity, plus commissions and fees that may be charged by a bank or broker, and just how much hand-holding you want when venturing outside your home turf.

ADRs clearly dominate the market, but the issue of their fees has been raised with the arrival of DaimlerChrysler's global share. It began trading on the New York Stock Exchange last November and is also listed in local currencies on several other global exchanges. The biggest difference between it and an ADR from the investor's point of view is that since global shares are bought directly, there is no depository to tack on what is called a conversion fee, typically a five-cent charge added to each receipt's selling price. The depositories also charge to cancel an ADR and sometimes to process dividend payments, though not on New York Stock Exchange-listed securities, a Bank of New York spokesman said.

The depository's role is by no means the only issue affecting the profitability of these instruments. Most important is that neither ADRs nor the new global share are protected from currency risk, even though they are denominated in dollars. The price, and the dividend, are impacted by the strength or weakness of the dollar against the company's home

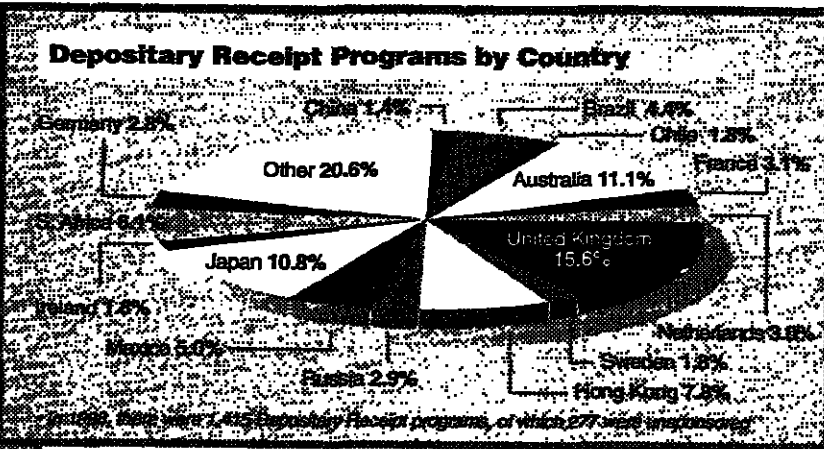
currency. Dollar-based investors in euro-denominated stocks have had a sharp reminder of just how damaging that can be this year.

Moreover, where you buy your shares can have a dramatic impact on costs. Investors who do their investing through full-service brokers pay top dollar in commissions, but many prefer this route, obtaining advice and extensive research, especially from huge firms like Merrill Lynch & Co., which boasts a global network of scores of analysts.

Another chunk of non-U.S. equity business is handled by discount brokers, ranging from specialized boutique firms to giant players such as Charles Schwab & Co. Marquette deBarry, a New York boutique, deals in common shares in international markets and ADRs for American and foreign customers. "If an American investor wants to buy a stock that has an ADR, we'll buy the ADR, unless the trading volume is very low," said Guillaume Tournemire, a vice president. "Then we'll look at ordinary shares, but that's rare."

What Mr. Tournemire seeks is the market with the most liquidity, where shares are most easily bought and sold, so the investor gets the best price. Even his European clients may buy depository receipts instead of common shares, he added, not only because of price, but to avoid the steep custody fees charged by their banks for holding the stock.

At Schwab, "our more sophisticated



Source: Bank of New York

Company	Ticker symbol	Country	Share volume, million	U.S. \$ Volume, billion
Telebras Preferred Shares	TBH	Brazil	892.6	81.0
Ericsson "B"	ERIC	Sweden	1,042.9	30.5
Royal Dutch Petroleum	RD	Netherlands	559.2	28.8
British Petroleum	NOKA	Finland	343.6	27.7
BP	BP	U.K.	274.4	23.5
Telefonos de Mexico "A"	TMX	Mexico	486.2	23.4
SmithKline Beecham	SBH	U.K.	248.8	15.0
Telebras Holding Company	TBR	Brazil	149.6	12.5
Unilever	UN	Netherlands	178.7	12.5
Philips Electronic	PHG	Netherlands	176.1	12.4

Source: Bank of New York

available to holders of common shares in the companies' home markets.

Along with these programs, which are available on the banks' respective Web sites, is an array of company information, research and stock prices. J.P. Morgan, for example, offers prices on both ADRs and underlying shares, plus earnings estimates, as well as information on the ADRs offered by competing banks.

More ADR listings are in the pipeline, but the New York Stock Exchange has announced that it is pursuing global share listings. Observers point out that the DaimlerChrysler listing had some political motivations, namely that Chrysler did not want an ADR because of the foreign comotation. But several more companies are expected to list global shares this year, and some are asking whether ADRs will eventually vanish in the face of this new instrument.

"I think global shares will probably work well, but only for the 100 giant multinationals around the world," said Steven Saker, president of International Assets, an Orlando, Florida investment boutique that specializes in overseas issues and ADRs. "I don't think the model works at any level below that, and it's very expensive for a small and medium-size company. Companies need to focus on where they need liquidity, and what for. For firms that have a following in the United States, a listed ADR makes a lot of sense. But for others, a local listing is all they need."

"It's not as if one is better than the other," said Mr. Colle of J.P. Morgan. "Our view is that what matters is not the instrument, it's the U.S. listing. These you have listing standards, pricing transparency and liquidity," he said.

Meanwhile, another option is surfacing. On-line trading services, such as Ameritrade and Schwab's Global Investing Service, offer investors the ability to buy and sell shares of companies in other countries, as well as access to various levels of research, some at no cost.

One example is Ameritrade Holding Corp., a U.S. on-line trading company, that has teamed with Bank 24, the discount brokerage unit of Deutsche Bank, allowing German and American investors to buy and sell stocks in each other's countries through a single account. A similar venture between Ameritrade and Cortal, the discount brokerage of Banque Paribas, is scheduled to be up and running by mid-summer, and more such alliances are planned.

Schwab's international Web sites also offer opportunities for doing research and investing in cross-border equities.

For further information:

- AMERITRADE. Web site: www.ameritrade.com
- BANK OF NEW YORK. Web site: www.bny.com
- CHARLES SCHWAB & CO. Global Investing Service. Telephone: 1 800 525 5252, or toll-free in the United States, 1 800 955 4655. International Web site: www.schwab-worldwide.com
- CITIBANK. Web site: www.citibank.com/citibank/adr
- DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT PLAN. Web site includes many ADRs: www.dripcentral.com
- INTERNATIONAL ASSETS. Telephone: 1 407 629 1400.
- MARQUETTE DEBARRY CO. Telephone: 1 212 644 5300.
- J.P. MORGAN & CO. Web site: www.jpm.com

Pick of the Portables: They're Big and Blue-Chip

YOU CAN LOOK at the American depository receipts universe as a minitask market of companies from around the world that have chosen to make their shares available in dollar-denominated form. Companies from 75 countries participate, and virtually every industry is represented, from pharmaceuticals and telecommunications to technology and retailers.

For individual investors (plenty of professional money managers buy ADRs as well), the most attractive companies right now are big, blue-chip, and European, say analysts and prognosticators who follow global stocks.

At Morgan Stanley Dean Witter & Co. in New York, the focus is on companies that dominate their markets and have a "pricing defense," the current low-inflation period, said Arthur Bradley, director of international equity marketing for the firm's brokerage network.

Based on that criteria, one of Morgan's top picks is Groupe Danone of France. Familiar in many countries as a yogurt maker, many consumers do not realize that it is the second-largest seller of bottled water in the world, with Evian among its brands, and that it is also a leading producer of cookies and biscuits, said Mr. Bradley. Another point in Danone's favor, he added, is that it is a restructuring story, focusing on those three sectors after selling unprofitable units. Morgan has a target price of \$69 over the next 12 months.

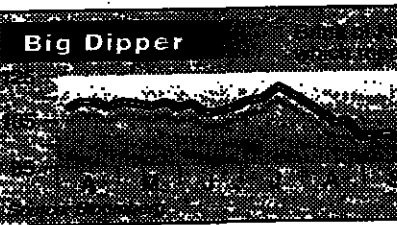
Food Retailers are in favor with Thomas McIntyre, manager of the \$85 million closed-end Dussauer Global Equity Fund. He has owned Royal Ahold NV, the Dutch supermarket giant, for years, and he still likes the stock. "It's a worldwide play on people going to the grocery store," he said. "They own great names in the U.S. like Stop & Shop, and they are big in Europe as well." Mr. McIntyre credited the company's superior management for its compounded annual return of 35 percent to shareholders for the last five years. Currently, the Ahold ADR is trading around \$38, down from an all-time high of \$41.875. Mr. McIntyre acknowledged that the price-earnings ratio was on the high side; still, he said he felt the stock was worth it.

Last month, Ahold extended its march into the United States, which accounts for more than half its sales, by purchasing Pathmark Inc., a supermarket

operator based in New Jersey that is active in the New York metropolitan area.

ANOTHER NAME that comes up frequently among the ADR cognoscenti is Glaxo Wellcome PLC, the largest pharmaceutical maker in the world. A leader in HIV treatment and asthma medications, with an 80 percent share of the market for migraine headache treatments, the British-based company has more than \$13 billion in sales annually. "Our analyst describes Glaxo as a defensive stock in a defensive sector," said Mr. Bradley.

The company has a new asthma drug in its pipeline, Seretide, which is expected to receive government approval



in the United States soon. "We feel it could be a potential blockbuster," Mr. Bradley said.

Glaxo has a place in Mr. McIntyre's fund, but he was even more enthusiastic about Elan Corp., a mid-size Irish pharmaceutical company with ambitions to be a large-cap name within five years. Originally known for its drug-delivery technology, Elan is transforming itself into a broad pharmaceutical company through acquisitions, and has several new drugs in its pipeline. "That's where the exciting growth is coming from," said Mr. McIntyre.

In March, Elan announced a stock split on the ADRs, though not the Dublin shares. Its stock jumped to close as high as \$87.875 before some profit-taking linked to concerns about the speed of approvals for an upcoming drug, Mr. McIntyre said.

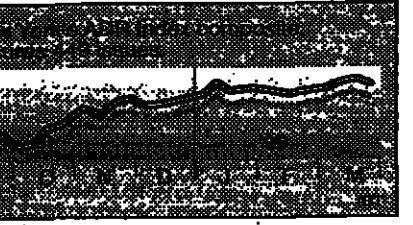
On Wednesday, he was adding to his Elan holding after the stock price had slipped to around \$70. Over the next 12 months, many analysts have target prices between \$90 and \$100, he said. The global telecommunications business is another industry that has listed a raft of ADRs. Luke Szymczak of Prudential Securities Inc. in New York, along with quite a few other analysts, has a buy rating on Nokia Corp., the Finnish

company whose cellular phones are market leaders around the globe.

"The story is that they are pressing into new segments of the market, and always on the leading edge in capturing consumers' attention," said Mr. Szymczak. He had just returned from Europe where he was impressed with Nokia's newest cell phone for the consumer market. It features fashion options such as changeable covers and keypads.

By being at the forefront of new designs, Nokia can command premium prices for its products, Mr. Szymczak said. More than 60 percent of its sales are of mobile phones, but the company also has a good telecom infrastructure business, he added.

With what Mr. Szymczak describes as



a healthy growth rate, he is looking for earnings of \$4.00 a share this year, and \$4.80 in 2000. His 12-month target price for the ADR, currently around \$159, is \$175.

Vivian Lewis, editor of Global Investing, a newsletter that covers depository receipts, has a favorite theme as well.

"One of the concepts I am very excited about is the spread of U.S.-type investment notions on pension funds outside the U.S.," she said. Ms. Lewis does not pretend that Americans will teach the world how to manage pension money. But she does think that AXA SA, the French insurance company, has an advantage because it owns 60 percent of Equitable Cos. Besides Equitable's considerable insurance operations, it has two important subsidiaries: Alliance Capital Management LP, one of the biggest players in global asset management, and Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette Inc., a securities house with a popular on-line brokerage.

"So you want to own AXA, because they can bring that expertise home to Europe," she said.

Continuing her pension theme, Ms. Lewis departed from Europe for South America. Chilean stocks have been hit hard by Brazil's financial crisis and eco-

nomics woes in Asia, an important customer for its exports. But Ms. Lewis is betting that Asian recovery will improve Chile's fortunes. Meanwhile, she sees a buying opportunity in Administradora de Fondos de Pensiones Provida SA, one of the companies that manages money for the country's privatized pension funds.

CHILE HAS ONE of the most modern pension-fund systems in the world. It is privately managed, requiring employees to deposit about 10 percent of their salaries into a score of mutual-fund-like accounts. The managers are closely regulated but are generally free to find the most lucrative investments.

Ms. Lewis called Provida "highly regulated and extremely profitable. Moreover, 'Provida is not only a Chile play, they are expanding all over Latin America,'" she said.

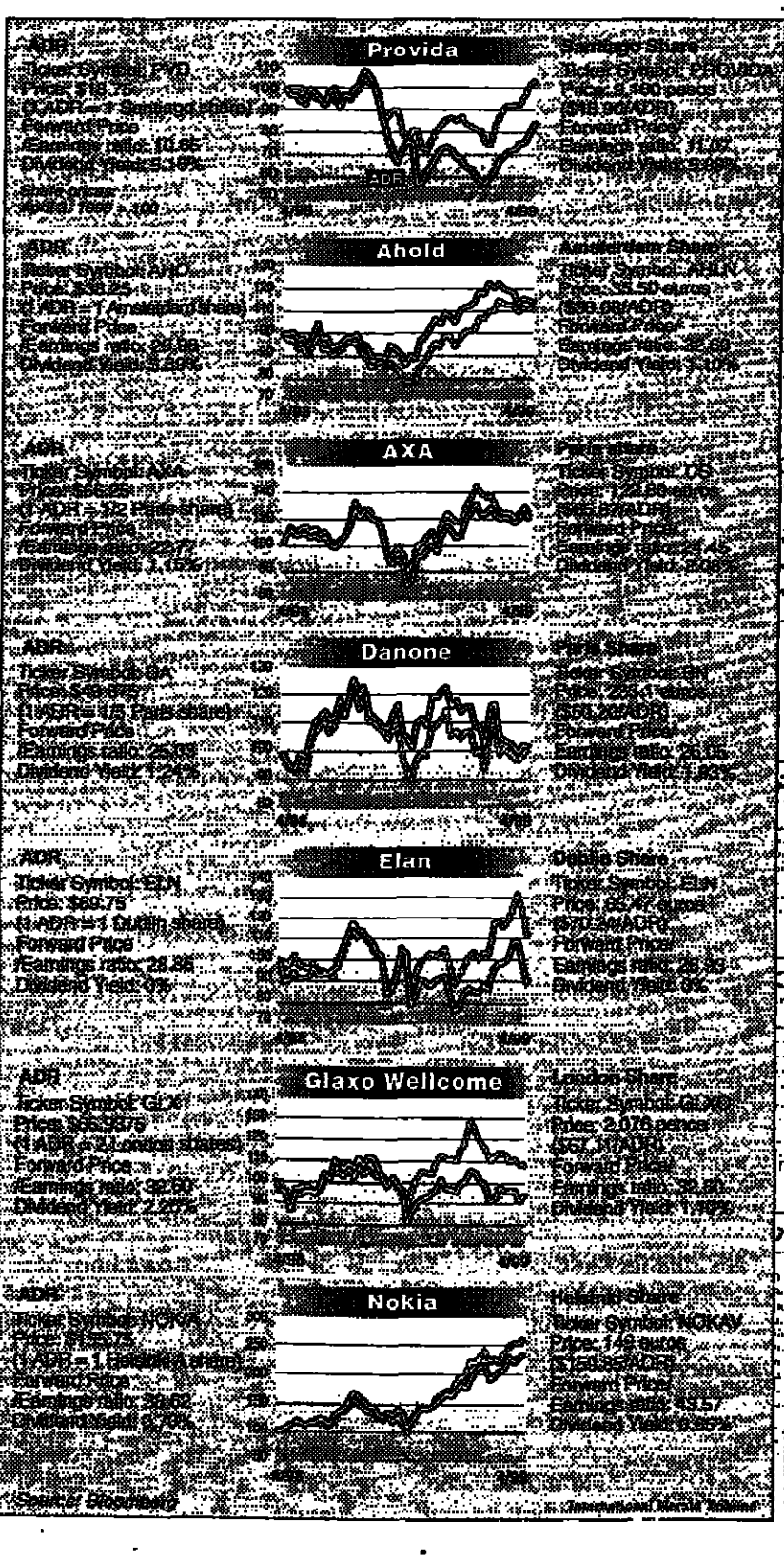
Of course, investors who live in the home countries of these companies will likely find it cheaper and more convenient to buy their shares on their own stock exchanges. But for global investors, the issue of choosing ADRs versus local shares must be made on a case-by-case basis.

Three examples: Mr. McIntyre noted that the price of Elan in Dublin, its home market, follows that of its ADRs, which are widely traded in the United States; Nokia ADRs are heavily traded in the United States, but there is also an active market for its underlying shares in London; and lastly, investors buying Chilean companies are likely to prefer ADRs, which can be traded freely, rather than common stock on the Santiago Stock Exchange, where foreign investors are required to hold their shares for at least a year.

— JUDITH REHAK

For further information:

- DESSAUER & MCINTYRE publishes "Investor's World," a newsletter on international stocks. A one-year subscription costs \$250. Telephone: 1 301 340 7788, or toll-free in the United States, 1 800 955 4655.
- GLOBAL INVESTING. International Herald Tribune readers can subscribe to this monthly newsletter at a special introductory rate of \$69 for five issues, or, for those in the United States, \$39. The regular rate is \$245 a year.
- The newsletter also publishes a guide to ADRs. It comes in a loose-leaf binder and quarterly updates are sent to subscribers. The current edition costs \$79.95 plus \$20 postage, or, for those in the United States, \$10 for postage. An IBM-compatible diskette version is available at the same price; both can be ordered for \$129.95.
- Telephone: 1 970 493 2292, or toll-free in the United States, 1 800 388 4227. Web site: www.global-investing.com
- MORGAN STANLEY DEAN WITTER. To get in touch with a country leader call 1 212 761 6049, or toll-free in the United States, 1 800 955 5250.
- THE ADRs for all the companies in this story are listed on the New York Stock Exchange. For a complete list of ADRs, see the "ADR" section on page D2.



Small-Caps and Foreign Shares: Buy and Diversify While They're Cheap

Earnings are growing at nearly 30 percent annually, and the stock trades at a P/E of 40. It has returned 163 percent in the past two years.

Another approach is simply to buy Vanguard's Index Trust Small-Cap Stock Fund, which attempts to mimic the Russell 2000 by investing in about 1,200 small-caps. A big attraction (as with all Vanguard index funds) is its low expense ratio — about one-quarter of a percentage point. Returns for the three years ending March 30 averaged 8.8 percent.

As for foreign funds, I have been particularly high on European and Japanese stocks this year. One excellent but obscure fund to consider is Artisan International, whose chief stock picker, Mark Yockey, was named "manager of the

Last year, Artisan returned 32 percent, compared with 13 percent for the average international (that is, global minus U.S.) fund, according to Lipper Inc. None of Mr. Yockey's top 20 stocks is Asian; instead, 16 percent are British, 12 percent Italian and 11 percent German. But his leading holding, as of the end of last year (the most recent reporting period), was Canadian: Metronet Communications Corp., a Cal-

gary-based firm offering local and long-distance phone and Internet services, which has risen 116 percent in the past 12 months.

Washington Post Service

James K. Glassman's e-mail address is jglassman@ihti.com. He welcomes comments, but cannot answer all queries.

Washington Post Service

Web Wagers: A Fund Manager Believes Internet Stocks Still Have Room to Rise

Not all of his choices were high-tech. North Fork Bank Corp. is based on Long Island but is expanding into New York City by way of acquisitions and offering a range of investment products to an increasingly affluent Big Apple. Mr. Babson described its strategy as "disciplined and profitable" and if the outlook for this kind of organic growth does not interest you, the bank is also small enough to be a takeover target.

TO CONTACT Babson-United, call 1 781 235 0900, or, toll-free in the United States, 888 223 7412; fax 1 781 235 9450; email inquiry@babson.com; or write to Babson-United Building, 101 Prescott Street, Wellesley Hills, Massachusetts 02481, U.S. A weekly newsletter, the Babson-United Investment Report is available for \$268 a year.

To receive free daily quotations for your

[illegible]

WORLD ROUNDUP



Tanaka Masami surging toward a world record Friday.

A Costly Mix-Up For Australians

SWIMMING The Australian men's 200 meters freestyle relay team lost its chance of a medal when it was disqualified after winning its heat Friday for swimming in the wrong order. The third and fourth swimmers changed places. For not following the order on the entry card, the quartet was disqualified in the world short-course championships. Its time was within two seconds of its own world record. New world records carry a \$15,000 bonus, and Australia had planned to substitute three world champions for the final.

Masami Tanaka of Japan set a world record in the women's 200 meters breaststroke final. In the men's 400 meters final, Grant Hackett beat a fellow Australian, Ian Thorpe, breaking Thorpe's world record. Jenny Thompson of the United States clipped a second off her record in a 100-meter individual medley heat. (AP, Reuters)

More Bad News for Nets

BASKETBALL The New Jersey Nets' disastrous National Basketball Association season took a turn for the worse. Keith Van Horn returned from injury and scored 24 as the Nets overcame a 14-point deficit against the Atlanta Hawks on Thursday. But Jayson Williams, the center, broke his leg and will miss the rest of the season. (AP)

Greeks to Play in Belgrade

SOCCER AEK Athens will play an exhibition game against Partizan Belgrade in the Yugoslav capital Wednesday. "The proceeds will go toward alleviating the plight of the Serbian people who are suffering as well," Petros Stathis, the Greek club's managing director, said Friday. (Reuters)

Irahu Misses Play and Trip

BASEBALL The New York Yankees set off for a West Coast road trip an hour late because Hideki Irahara failed to hustle in a spring training game. George Steinbrenner, the team owner, became angry Thursday after Irahara failed to cover first base for the second time in a week. Steinbrenner called the pitcher a "fat pussy toad."

The Yankees beat Cleveland, 7-6, in Tampa, Florida, and were to leave at once for California. But their departure was delayed an hour because of postgame meetings about Irahara.

Steinbrenner later said Irahara would remain in Florida to work out before joining the team Tuesday in Oakland. (AP)

Bruins Improve Chances

ICE HOCKEY The Boston Bruins moved closer to clinching a National Hockey League playoff berth when they beat Montreal, 3-2, Thursday. That result, coupled with Florida's loss to Washington, gave the Bruins a seven-point lead over the two teams chasing it for the final playoff berth in the Eastern Conference. The Bruins fought back after goals from Dainius Zubrus and Brian Savage gave Montreal a first-period lead. (AP)



Sergei Zholtok, upright, congratulating Dainius Zubrus, who scored past Byron Dafoe.

Baseball's Great Summer of '98 Is History; Long Live '99

WASHINGTON — All winter, I've been looking at Mark McGwire's jersey. The red Cardinals shirt — "McGwire 25" — is draped over the back of my reading chair. Of course, it's not a real McGwire jersey — just a \$25 knockoff from a Busch Stadium concession stand, but it serves its purpose.

All winter, I realized that I didn't want the 1998 season to be finished yet. So the jersey stayed in a spot where I could see it until Opening Day 1999, on Sunday. Like many fans, I don't want 1998 to recede — not just McGwire's 70 home runs, Sammy Sosa's 66 or the Yankees' 125 wins, but all of it. It was too special.

Baseball is not a member of the family. But when the game is on a roll, it can almost feel that way, pulling you in day after day with something bright and, at least last summer, actually uplifting.

When the game was sick after the '94 strike, you almost didn't want to ask: "Exactly how sick is baseball? What's the prognosis? Give it to me straight, doc." Last year, baseball got the lab results back. Nothing serious.

Nonetheless, I'm a little afraid of 1999. How is it going to stack up? So far this spring, the health metaphor has fit the sport far too ominously.

The funeral for the man usually introduced as "Baseball's Greatest Living Player" — Joe DiMaggio — is still fresh in mind. The Big Cat, Andres Galarraga, one of the game's best sluggers and

Vantage Point/THOMAS BOSWELL

nicest people, is out for the year with a cancerous tumor in his lower back. Kerry Wood, the '98 National League rookie of the year and the most dazzling young pitcher in the game by a wide margin, also is out for the year. At age 21, there is only one kind of elbow surgery: career threatening.

Cal Ripken Sr. died on March 25 of lung cancer, causing one of the game's most prominent players, Cal Ripken Jr., to leave spring training. The spring's best news may be that Joe Torre's prostate cancer was detected so early that his chances of a recurrence are relatively low. Joe will miss only a few weeks.

Despite all this, it still seems baseball has regained its balance — between business and sport, between personal individuality and public responsibility. Starting with Ripken, who reestablished the power of the old-fashioned, just-act-right hero, baseball has discovered a whole generation of classic baseball gentlemen: Tony Gwynn, Galarraga, Ken Griffey Jr., Greg Maddux, Frank Thomas, Mike Piazza, Tom Glavine, Mike Mussina, McGwire, Sosa, Felipe Alou, Dusty Baker and Torre.

What happened to all the jerks? Did they get teleported to another dimension? Did the twinkle in Don Zimmer's eye get sprinkled on everybody?

Except for Albert Belle, who's supposedly having a personality make-over

in Baltimore, and perhaps Barry Bonds, it's hard to find a baseball star who can't be allowed in polite company.

The next generation of potential Hall of Famers already seems to have picked up the message. Alex Rodriguez in Seattle grew up modeling himself on Ripken. Nomar Garciaparra in Boston is as elegant on the field and as shy, stoic and silent off it as a DiMaggio brother. Derek Jeter wants to be known as a class act. And those are just the shortstops.

If you had to predict the next two superstars who will emerge in the 2000s, you might guess Vladimir Guerrero (38 homers) in Montreal and third baseman Scott Rolen (110 RBIs) in Philadelphia.

PERHAPS baseball was the first sport to become intoxicated with big free-agent money, glamour and the fast-lane lifestyle in the late '70s and early '80s. That swell-headed arrogance and self-inflation may have peaked in '94. Baseball awoke with such a splitting headache that, maybe, it finally sobered up. Perhaps it's ready for an era of good citizenship.

The backbone of baseball at the turn of the millennium is the almost unprecedented number of superior everyday players who are either in their prime or emerging young stars. There's such a talent glut that some of the best players are almost

unknown outside their own cities.

Which Blue Jay had 35 homers and 35 steals last year? Not Carlos Delgado (38 homers), but rifle-armed outfielder Shawn Green. Name the catcher who hit 327 last year with a .411 on-base percentage and 26 steals? Hint: He bats leadoff. Pittsburgh's Jason Kendall, 24.

Who is the Chicago second baseman who scored 126 runs and stole 36 bases — superstar numbers? Ray Durham. Which of these young players drove in 100 runs last season: Tony Clark, Damon Easley, Rusty Greer, Jason Giambi, Matt Stairs, Rico Brogna, Derek Bell, Kevin Young or Jeremy Burnitz? Answer: All of them. Todd Helton and the rookie Ben Grieve just missed.

With the exception of Ripken and Gwynn, almost none of the game's biggest names is in his dotage. Even those two, if they get their 3,000th hits this season, will still have some game left.

As if to underline the point that the game's key players are in their primes, McGwire and Sosa went to spring training and each hit seven exhibition-game homers almost immediately. Big Mac needed only 28 at-bats! What's that, a pace for 120? Chill, dude. Save it.

At the moment, baseball has one universally acknowledged Achilles' heel. About a dozen supremely rich franchises have a clear advantage in accumulating talent, while a half-dozen teams are unable to compete at a serious level in a sport defined by free-agent dollars.

Much of the game's economic in-

equality can be traced to its new family-friendly retro ballparks. Everybody wants them, only a few teams have them. Yet, in every city that gets a Camden Yards clone, a rabid new fan base quickly attaches itself to the sophisticated sports site that doubles as a kind of hip, all-purpose Entertainment Destination.

Seamheads bemoan this edifice complex. To them, unless you keep score of every pitch and spot every reliever who gets up to loosen his arm, you should not be allowed in the park. Ban the heathens. Bring back grunge. Keep the beer warm and the hog dogs cold.

Get a life, purists. Baseball has always been inclusive. Some of the new faces in these swanky ballparks may become good fans. Some may just have a good time. Who cares which? Ever since '94, baseball has been learning the same lesson in many forms. Whether it's an autograph, an interview, a sportsmanlike display between foes like Mac and Sammy or the creation of a section of a park that's devoted to the special interests of certain fans, the game has learned to ask the same key question: What can we do for you?

As Opening Day draws near, it's clear that there's good news and bad news about baseball as the '99 season begins. The bad news: There is no way this season figures to be as good as last year. The good news: Baseball's health is so robust, and its concern for its fans is so legit, that even if this season doesn't approach historic '98, it should still be wonderful.

Yankees Likely to Repeat '98 Record Victory Total

By Richard Justice
Washington Post Service

How the teams in the American League East are going to fare this season. Teams are listed in predicted order of finish.

New York Yankees If the Yankees can stay healthy and avoid a letdown while manager Joe Torre recuperates from prostate cancer surgery, they probably will be just as good as the team that set a league record for victories. New York made just one major offseason deal, but

AL EAST

it was a big one, obtaining the two-time defending Cy Young winner, Roger Clemens, for David Wells. Graeme Lloyd and Homer Bush. Wells won 18 games last year, including a perfect game, and was a unifying presence, but Clemens has been the most dominant pitcher of the last 20 years and, at 36, has showed no signs of slowing. Bernie Williams, Paul O'Neill, Derek Jeter and Tino Martinez anchor an offense that had no trouble scoring last season. Opposing teams can only hope that Clemens and David Cone, also 36, wear down, and that Andy Pettitte's arm problems flare up again.

Baltimore Orioles The Orioles spent heaps of money last season, only to finish 35 games out of first place. Owner Peter Angelos opened his wallet again this offseason, bringing in Albert Belle for \$65 million over five years. The Orioles should be better, but questions remain. Belle should thrive at power hitter-friendly Camden Yards, but his volatile personality is a concern.

Will Clark and Delino DeShields make for a solid right side of the infield, but the departed Roberto Alomar and Rafael Palmeiro were better defensively. Charles Johnson, traded from the Dodgers, adds some much-needed defense behind the plate.

Toronto Blue Jays The Blue Jays have had a tumultuous offseason. First, Clemens, who won the Cy Young Award in each of his two years in Toronto, demanded and received a trade. Then former manager Tim Lincecum, who had fabricated his role in the Vietnam War, was fired, after team officials cited his statements as a distraction. Still, the Blue Jays have a lot of talent and could challenge for a wild card. Wells, Joey Hamilton and Pat Hentgen, a former Cy Young winner, are all formidable starters who combined to average 14 wins last season. Shannon Stewart, Jose Cruz Jr. and Shawn Green comprise the best young outfield in baseball. Sorely missing is a closer.

Boston Red Sox The Red Sox failed to re-sign Mo Vaughn (.337, 40 HRs). Boston will be hard pressed to replace those numbers at the plate, with Nomar Garciaparra (35 HRs, 122 RBI) now the best offensive threat. Jose Offerman was the only position player Boston picked up in the offseason, but he brings little in terms of power and is a defensive liability. Pedro Martinez, who is joined on the Red Sox this season by older brother Ramon, is the cream of the starting rotation. Tom Gordon (46 saves last season) is one of the game's premier closers, but if the Red Sox can't give their starters any run support, his role will be greatly reduced.

Tampa Bay Devil Rays Despite their last-place finish last season, the Devil Rays (63-99) should take pride in the fact that they were the only recent expansion team not to lose more than 100 games in their first season. Still, Tampa Bay will need to generate more offense if it is to avoid that dubious mark this season. The addition of Jose Canseco, who hit 46 homers last season in Toronto, will help. Wade Boggs is 78 hits away from 3,000, but he will share time with Bobby Smith at third base.

Indians Looking Strong, But Need Another Arm

Washington Post Service
How the teams in the AL Central are going to fare. Teams listed in predicted order of finish.

Cleveland Indians As the only big-money team in the American League Central, the Indians are almost ensured of their fifth straight division crown. Getting to the World Series will be a stretch, however, if the Indians don't pick up a dominant starting pitcher. Jaret

clubhouse this spring. He is also in much better shape, something the team hopes will allow him to play more at first base and less as designated hitter.

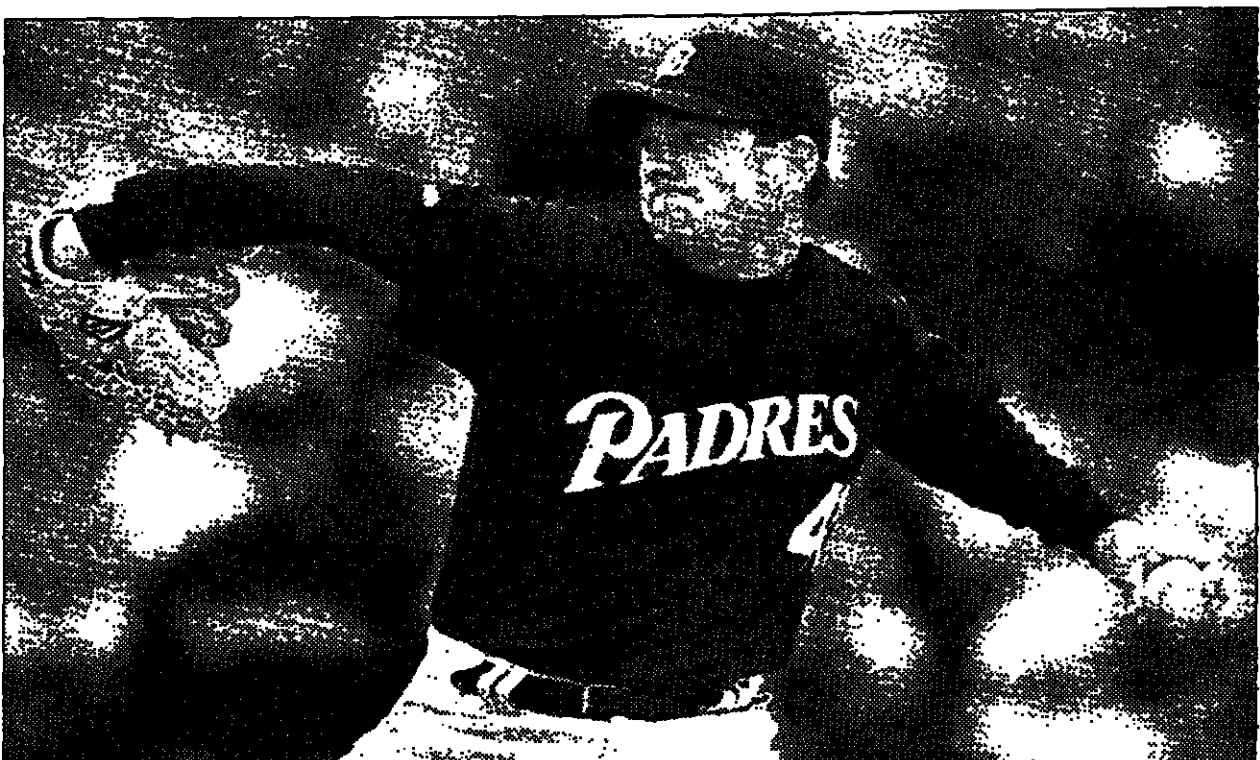
After Thomas, the White Sox are lacking in power. Mike Siroka, 14-15 last season, anchors a mediocre starting rotation. Bobby Howry has been a pleasant surprise this spring and has seen up the closer's job.

Kansas City Royals The Royals are in need of starting pitching and are prepared to sacrifice their No. 1 starter, Kevin Appier, in the process. Appier had successful shoulder surgery over the offseason and has looked strong this spring, so the Royals are expecting some solid starters plus some other prospects in return. Kansas City also might trade closer Jeff Montgomery for even more prospects.

The Royals are strong in the outfield with Johnny Damon, Jeff Conine and Carlos Beltran, whose names are comparing to Bernie Williams. Joe Randa and Rey Sanchez won't let much through the left side of the infield. But the Royals are rebuilding and won't pose much of a challenge.

Minnesota Twins The team of Kirby Puckett, Kent Hrbek and Frank Viola is now the team of Torii Hunter, Doug Mientkiewicz and LaTroy Hawkins. Only manager Tom Kelly, who in his 13th full season has the longest tenure of any major league manager, remains from the team's glory years of 1987 and 1991. The team is shopping its number one starter, Brad Radke (12-14 last season), because he has gotten too expensive.

Minnesota's best hope for the year is that Kelly, a master teacher, can breathe some life into this young and unproven team. —R.J.



THE HIGH HARD ONE — Sterling Hitchcock of the San Diego Padres pitching to Ken Griffey Jr. of the Seattle Mariners, who doubled in an exhibition game. The Padres defeated their West Coast opponents, 9-8.

The Crack of the Bat

By Dick Roraback
International Herald Tribune

Away on this side of the ocean
When the chestnuts are hinting of green
And the first of the café commandos
Are moving outside for a fine
And the sound of spring beats a bolero
As Párese sheds her coat and her hat
The sound that is missed more than any
Is the sound of the crack of a bat.

There's an animal kind of a feeling
There's a stirring down at Vincennes Zoo
And the kid down the hall's getting restless
Taking stairs like a young kangaroo
Now the dandy is walking his poodle
And the concierge sunning her cat
But the heart's with the Cubs and the Tigers
And the sound of the crack of a bat.

In the park on the corner run schoolboys
With a couple of cartons for props
Kicking goals à la Fontaine or Kopa
While a little guy chickies for cops
"Goal for us," "No it's not," "You're a liar,"
Then the classical shrieks of a spat
But it's not like a rhubarb at home plate
Or the sound of the crack of a bat.

Here the stadia thrill to the scrumdowns

And the soccer fans flock to the games
And the kick punt the nags out at Longchamp
Where the women are dames and not dames
But it's different at Forbes and at Griffith
The homes of the Buc and the Nat
Where the hotdog and peanut share laurels
With the sound of the crack of a bat.

No, a Yank can't describe to a Frenchman
The rasp of an umpire's call
The continuing charms of statistics
Changing hist'ry with each strike and ball
Nor the self-conscious jog of the slugger
Rounding third with the tip of his hat
Nor the half-smothered grace of a hook slide
Nor the sound of the crack of a bat.

Now the golfer is buffing his niblick
And the tennis buff's tightening his strings
And the fisherman's flexing his flyrod
Like a thousand and one other springs
Oh, the sports on both sides of the ocean
Have a great deal in common, at that
But the thing that's not HERE
At this time of the year
Is the sound of the crack of a bat.

The late Dick Roraback was sports editor of the Herald Tribune. His springtime elegy has appeared in this space since the 1960s.

Rangers Have Questions on the Mound

Washington Post Service
How the teams in the AL West are going to fare. Teams are listed in predicted order of finish.

Texas Rangers The Rangers scored a franchise record 940 runs and shouldn't see much of a drop this season. The question for this team is its starting rotation. Rick Helling and Aaron Sele

AL WEST

combined for 39 victories and the Rangers were 46-20 when they started, but Texas's starters had the highest earned run average (5.68) in the league. It was the bullpen that won many games for Texas. If closer John Wetteland (42 saves) does not recover from offseason elbow surgery, the Rangers could be in trouble. Texas improved offensively and defensively with the addition of Rafael Palmeiro, but he underwent knee surgery in March, and is trying to get ready for opening day. Rusty Greer, Juan Gonzalez, Palmeiro and Ivan Rodriguez (the Rangers' 2-3-4-5 hitters) all could have more than 100 runs batted in. Anaheim

Angels The Angels are seeking to avoid their fourth September collapse in five years. The addition of Mo Vaughn will add power to an already strong lineup, but the Angels still are lacking a solid starter to supplement their aging rotation. They did pick up veteran Tim Lincecum, a tireless worker who probably will provide 10 to 15 victories. Anaheim is loaded in the outfield, so much so that Garrett Anderson (15 HRs, .294 BA) could be dealt for a pitcher. Darin Erstad, Jim Edmonds and Tim Salmon averaged 23 homers last season.

Seattle Mariners It's no secret that Ken Griffey Jr. and Alex Rodriguez are two of the best in the game. So why would the Mariners even consider letting them go? The answer, of course, is money. Seattle moves into a new, expensive ballpark in July, and Seattle's fans have shown that they support only a winner ('98 attendance fell 17.2 percent).

But it's not Griffey or Rodriguez's fault. The Mariners had perhaps the worst bullpen in baseball last year, blowing 27 saves. The addition of Jose Mesa will help if he can regain his edge. The starting rotation isn't much better and lacks a true power pitcher. Griffey needs some defensive help in the outfield,

where neither David Segui nor Butch Huskey has a good glove.

Oakland Athletics This is probably Art Howe's last chance to do something with the small-budget Athletics. His job was in jeopardy at the end of last season but he ultimately was given a contract extension. Howe doesn't have much to work with besides Kenny Rogers, the veteran right hander, and Ben Grieve, last year's rookie of the year. Oakland picked up Tim Lincecum and Tony Phillips over the offseason in an attempt to get some experience, but they both play left field and will rarely be on the field together at the same time (unless Phillips gets some time at second base). All eyes are on rookie Eric Chavez, the early season favorite to be the Athletics' second consecutive rookie of the year. He is strong at the plate but error-prone in the field. —R.J.

THE NATIONAL LEAGUE

The National League division-by-division preview will appear Monday in the International Herald Tribune.

SPORTS

Courier and Martin Give U.S. 2-0 Lead Over Britain

By Christopher Clarey
International Herald Tribune

BIRMINGHAM, England — For more than four hours, more than 9,000 British fans waved their Union Jacks to welcome their Davis Cup team back to the World Group, but when Jim Courier's last passing shot of the long afternoon had landed for a clean winner, the only fans putting their flags through the motions in the National Indoor Arena were a few dozen Americans.

Tim Henman might have a higher ranking than Courier at this stage in their careers. Henman might have won more points and one more game than the American on Friday. But Courier would win the match to give the United States a 1-0 lead, and then Todd Martin extended that with a 6-4, 6-4, 6-2 victory over Greg Rusedski.

"It is this indication, it's going to be a great weekend," said Courier after his 7-6 (7-2), 2-6, 7-6 (7-3), 6-7 (10-12), 7-5 victory.

The match, which lasted four hours and 12 minutes, was remarkable not only for its length but for its quality.

Courier, who was once the world's number one player, has slipped to 54th in the rankings and has not gotten past the fourth round in a Grand Slam event since 1996. But the Davis Cup has helped fill some of the competitive and emotional void, and against Henman, ranked seventh, Courier's quick movement, forehand blasts and cocksure passing shots were often reminiscent of his better days.

In the first round in 1997, in spite of a Brazilian crowd that was infinitely more obnoxious than the fair-minded Britons, Courier defeated Gustavo Kuerten on the road in the decisive match. Last year in the first round, he rallied to win a five-setter against Marat Safin of Russia to finish off a 3-2 victory and was tackled on court by his giddy teammates.

The victory Friday brought him more good vibrations and a measure of vindication. Although Courier was named to the team by the captain, his best friend Tom Gullikson, for last year's semifinal match against Andre Agassi, Gullikson decided to play Jan-Michael Gambill and keep Courier on the bench. Gambill and the Americans lost.

This time, after Pete Sampras and Andre Agassi again declined to play, Gullikson opted for experience and chose Courier over Gambill. Clearly, it was the right move, and even though Henman saved four match points in the fourth-set tiebreaker, Courier kept his temper and his concentration intact. And after holding serve to 6-5 in the final set, he cupped over to his chair.

DAVIS CUP TENNIS

and found the energy to break Henman at love and then leap into the air with joy. "I was just trying to get that extra adrenaline going," he said.

Courier was not the only player who got by on adrenaline during the first day of World Group play. In Frankfurt, Tommy Haas defeated Marat Safin 9-7 in the fifth set to give Germany an early lead over Russia. Yevgeny Kafelnikov, the Australian Open champion, defeated Nicolas Pietrangeli in straight sets to level the tie at 1-1.

On a quick indoor court in Hagen, Zimbabwe, Byron Black drew strength from a home crowd to defeat Mark

Philippoussis, 6-3, 3-6, 4-6, 6-3, 7-5. A year ago in Australia, Black and his younger brother Wayne upset Pat Rafter and the Australians in the first round when Philippoussis declined to play because of a dispute with the captain, John Newcombe, and coach, Tony Roche.

But even with Philippoussis back in the lineup and serving 39 aces, Byron was able to use his home-court savvy and world-class returns to put the Australians on the defensive again. In the second singles match, however, Rafter defeated Wayne Black in four sets.

The Spaniards and Brazilians were also tied at 1 after the first day of play on red clay in Lleida, Spain. In the opening rubber, Carlos Moya defeated Fernando Meligeni of Brazil in four sets. Kuerten, the former French Open champion, then defeated Moya's Spanish teammate Alex Corretja in straight sets, 6-3, 6-4, 7-5.

Richard Krajicek, fresh off an impressive victory in Key Biscayne, required considerably more time to finish the final of the Australian Open in January, but he had a far better season than Hrbaty, but logic is frequently not the decisive factor in the Davis Cup.

Dutchman, dropped the first two sets against the unorthodox Golmard, who beat Henman in Key Biscayne, but then rallied to win, 3-6, 4-6, 7-6 (7-5), 6-4, 6-2, to give the Netherlands a 1-0 lead. Cedric Pioline then defeated Paul Haarhuis in straight sets to make it 1-1.

Belgium and Switzerland took early 1-0 leads. In Gent, the Belgian teenager Xavier Malisse defeated Bohdan Ulihrach of the Czech Republic in four sets. In Neuchâtel, Marc Rosset of Switzerland defeated Gianluca Pozzi of Italy in straight sets. Neither of those results were particularly surprising, but it does come as a surprise to see that Sweden, which has won the Davis Cup the last two years, was trailing the Slovak Republic, 2-0, in the southern Swedish city of Trollhättan.

In the opening match, Karol Kucera of Slovakia defeated Thomas Johansson in four sets. Then in the second match, Dominik Hrbaty upset Sweden's Thomas Enqvist in five sets. Enqvist, who reached the final of the Australian Open in January, has had a far better season than Hrbaty, but logic is frequently not the decisive factor in the Davis Cup.

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

EXHIBITION BASEBALL

THURSDAY RESULTS

Texas A&M 10, Detroit 4
Tampa Bay 11, Toronto 6
Boston 7, Milwaukee 0
St. Louis 4, Montreal 3
Houston 1, Atlanta 1
Pittsburgh 12, Philadelphia 7
New York Yankees 7, Cleveland 6
Colorado 7, Milwaukee 7
San Diego 5, Seattle 5
Chicago Cubs 3, Oakland 2
Chicago White Sox vs. Arizona at Tucson, Ariz., 7 p.m.
Midwest (AAA) Texas 15, Oklahoma 7, 7 p.m.

BASKETBALL

NBA STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	PCT	GB
Orlando	22	18	.550	
Atlanta	19	20	.488	1 1/2
New York	18	21	.462	2 1/2
Philadelphia	16	24	.400	5
Washington	13	27	.325	8 1/2
Seattle	10	29	.256	11 1/2
New Jersey	6	34	.150	16 1/2

FOOTBALL

THURSDAY RESULTS

Seattle 15, San Jose 9
Phoenix 14, San Francisco 11
Golden State 13, Oakland 11
LA Clippers 3, LA Raiders 21

HOCKEY

NHL STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	PCT	GB
Colorado	22	18	2	.550	
Atlanta	19	20	1	.488	1 1/2
New York	18	21	1	.462	2 1/2
Philadelphia	16	24	0	.400	5
Washington	13	27	0	.325	8 1/2
Seattle	10	29	1	.256	11 1/2
New Jersey	6	34	0	.150	16 1/2

TENNIS

DAVIS CUP

WORLD GROUP

1st Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
2nd Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
3rd Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
4th Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
5th Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).

TENNIS

DAVIS CUP

WORLD GROUP

1st Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
2nd Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
3rd Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
4th Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
5th Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).

TENNIS

DAVIS CUP

WORLD GROUP

1st Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
2nd Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
3rd Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
4th Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
5th Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).

TENNIS

DAVIS CUP

WORLD GROUP

1st Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
2nd Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
3rd Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
4th Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
5th Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).

TENNIS

DAVIS CUP

WORLD GROUP

1st Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
2nd Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
3rd Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
4th Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
5th Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).

TENNIS

DAVIS CUP

WORLD GROUP

1st Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
2nd Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
3rd Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
4th Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
5th Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).

TENNIS

DAVIS CUP

WORLD GROUP

1st Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
2nd Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
3rd Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
4th Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
5th Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).

TENNIS

DAVIS CUP

WORLD GROUP

1st Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
2nd Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
3rd Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
4th Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
5th Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).

TENNIS

DAVIS CUP

WORLD GROUP

1st Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
2nd Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
3rd Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
4th Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
5th Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).

TENNIS

DAVIS CUP

WORLD GROUP

1st Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
2nd Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
3rd Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
4th Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
5th Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).

TENNIS

DAVIS CUP

WORLD GROUP

1st Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
2nd Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
3rd Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
4th Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
5th Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).

TENNIS

DAVIS CUP

WORLD GROUP

1st Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
2nd Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
3rd Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
4th Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).
5th Period: T-Berlin 30 (30), T-Yoshida 30 (30).

DENNIS THE MENACE



"ARE YOU THE OLD GUY WHO TOOK THIS KID TO GET LOST?"

PEANUTS



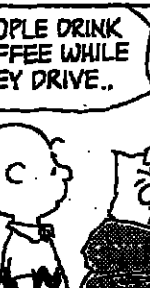
"ANOTHER TRAFFIC REPORT! WHAT DO I CARE ABOUT A TRAFFIC REPORT? I DON'T DRIVE A CAR!"

PEOPLE DRINK COFFEE WHILE THEY DRIVE..



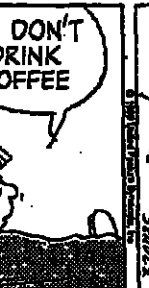
"I DON'T DRINK COFFEE"

AND THEY TALK ON THE TELEPHONE..



"I COULD DO THAT.."

I'M HOME. I DIDN'T GET MY PREFFERER, SENNE TOWN, DID I?



"I'M HOME. I DIDN'T GET MY PREFFERER, SENNE TOWN, DID I?"

AS A MATTER OF FACT, YOU DID.



"AS A MATTER OF FACT, YOU DID."

IT'S HERE!



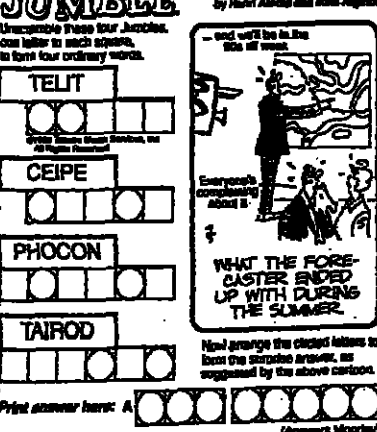
"IT'S HERE!"

"SHE ASSEMBLED BATTERIES NOT INCLUDED."



"'SHE ASSEMBLED BATTERIES NOT INCLUDED.'"

JUMBLE



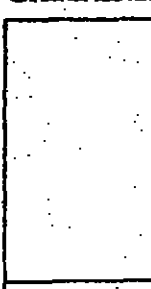
"What puzzle the closest letters to form the words above, as suggested by the word search." (Humorous Mystery)

Answer: "You might say every day and every night in this is the best."

Internet address: <http://www.ihf.com>

THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

GARFIELD



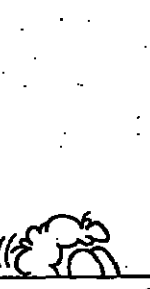
"YOUR SHOES ARE ON YOUR KNEES, JON"

BEETLE BAILEY



"MAYBE MARTHA AND I SHOULD TAKE A CRUISE LIKE THIS COUPLE TO SPARK UP OUR MARRIAGE"

BLONDIE



"I'LL OPEN THE BIDDING ON THIS UNUSUAL STATUE AT \$250!"

SHE PUCKERED AND WENT OVER THE RAIL.. THEN SHE PICKED UP THE GUY WHO REACHED HER FOR PUTTING HIS ARM AROUND HER!



"SHE PUCKERED AND WENT OVER THE RAIL.. THEN SHE PICKED UP THE GUY WHO REACHED HER FOR PUTTING HIS ARM AROUND HER!"

SOUNDS LIKE FUN IF WE CAN AFFORD IT!



"SOUNDS LIKE FUN IF WE CAN AFFORD IT!"

A QUIET EVENING OUT WITH LEONARD..



"A QUIET EVENING OUT WITH LEONARD.."

DOONESBURY FLASHBACKS



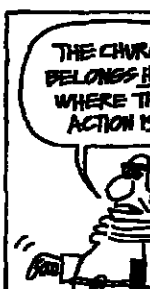
"I KNOW I KNOW—THAT'S A BIT OVER THE TOP, BUT I THINK I'VE LEARNED A VALUABLE LESSON TONIGHT."

EVEN A SHARPLEY CAN LOSE A LITTLE!



"EVEN A SHARPLEY CAN LOSE A LITTLE!"

WELL, DUN, THANK YOU JENNY!



"WELL, DUN, THANK YOU JENNY!"

A two-month trial subscription.

Save up to 60%

Try a special, low cost 2-month trial subscription to the International Herald Tribune to enjoy delivery to your home or office every morning and save up to 60% off the newsstand price.

Country: _____

Home Tel No: _____ Business Tel No: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

I get this copy of the IHT at: ☐ Book ☐ Mail ☐ Office ☐ Other _____

☐ I do not wish to receive information from other carefully screened companies.

Mail or fax to: International Herald Tribune

EUROPE, MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA

181 Ave. Charles de Gaulle, 92521 Neuilly Cedex, France

Fax: +33 1 41 43 92 10, Tel: +33 1 41 43 93 61

THE AMERICAS

850 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022-6275, USA

Fax: +1 212 735 8785, Tel: (toll free) 1-800-882-2884

1201 K. Way Centre, 191 Joss Road, North Point, Hong Kong

Fax: +852 2922 1199, Tel: +852 2922 1171

E-Mail: subinfo@ihf.com — Fax: subinfo@ihf.com — Internet: www.ihf.com

Offer valid for new subscribers only. H47M

DAVE BARRY

Taxes and Margaritas

MIAMI — Perhaps you are one of the many Americans who are afraid of preparing their own income-tax returns. If so, let me offer these words of encouragement: You stupid idiot. I say this because doing your own taxes has never been easier, thanks to modern technology such as the telephone, the personal computer, and the canned frozen margarita.

Take me. I am not a so-called Certified Public Accountant, but I have been handling my own taxes for years, using a simple, three-step system:

STEP ONE: One week before the April 15 tax deadline, I gather together all my financial records. This is easy, because I keep all my records in one convenient place, the kitchen drawer where I also keep my butane lighters with no butane in them and my package of "AAA" batteries, which I bought in 1987 because I thought they were "AA" batteries, and which I plan to return for a refund as soon as I locate the receipt. So all my records are compressed into one convenient, dense wad.

STEP TWO: Using a chisel, I separate my records and sort them according to size and color. This takes a while, but it "paves the way" for the heart of my preparation system:

STEP THREE: I phone Evan, my accountant, and urgently ask if I can file for an extension, and he tells me that he already did. Then he hangs up and goes back to sleep because at this point it is 3:30 A.M. on April 18.

The advantage of this "Extension System" is that you can postpone filing your tax return for several months, and even longer if, the good Lord willing, the Earth is destroyed by an asteroid. You know what makes me want to puke, aside from Gerald Rivera? I'll tell you what: so-called tax-preparation software. When I go to the computer superstore and see these clueless taxpayers paying good money for software that is allegedly going to make their tax preparation "fast and easy," I laugh so hard that it takes four store employees to wrestle me to the floor and inject my special medicine into my neck. I react this way because I know that this "tax-preparation software" is NOT going to prepare these clueless taxpayers' returns for them: it is going to ask them 14 skillful technical questions about things such as their name, Social Security number, income, expenses and the exact number — right down to the decimal point! — of their children.

Listen, software geeks: If we KNEW all these details, we wouldn't need the computer to help us! Why don't you make USEFUL tax software? I'm talking about software that, when you put it into your computer, says to you: "You've done ENOUGH already! Go enjoy a canned margarita while I use my modem to wake Evan up and get you an extension!"

For those of you who wish, for whatever insane reason, to actually prepare your tax returns, there are some changes you need to know about. The main one is that the IRS now has a positive, taxpayer-friendly image, expressed by the upbeat new motto: "We Acknowledge That There Is a Possibility, However Remote, That You Are Not Criminal Scum." Instead of hassling taxpayers, the new IRS wants to serve them.

What does this mean to you, the individual taxpayer? According to Commissioner Charles Rossotti, it means you are now expected to tip. "If you're a married taxpayer filing jointly," states Rossotti in his Letter to Taxpayers, "tucking a fifty-dollar bill inside your tax return will definitely cause the IRS employee serving you to feel appreciated and be less likely to select you for the auditing procedure we call 'The Closet Full of Snakes.'"

Rossotti also points out that when we sign our returns, we are taking a legal oath. "This means," he sternly reminds us, "that the information you provide must meet the same standard of truth and accuracy that President Clinton met when he testified under oath about alleged acts of internship with Monica Lewinsky." For example, if you have three dependents, when you fill in the box that says "Number of Dependents," the following answers would meet the Clinton Accuracy Standard:

- "Three."
- "Four."
- "Around 27."
- "It depends what you mean by 'dependent.'"

Remember that, as always, if you have questions about filling out your forms, you can call up your congressman or senators at any hour of the day or night and ask them what brand of glue they were sniffing when they thought up our tax laws. But let us not become bitter and negative. Let us remember that, in a democratic society, if we do not pay our "fair share" of taxes for vital services, we will be able to buy ourselves a boat. So let's sharpen our pencils and start accurately writing down our income. I don't recall having any.

©1999, The Miami Herald

Distributed by Tribune Media Services Inc.

Designs for Living in a Multicultural Society

By Mary Blume
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — Much public housing is both perfunctory and patronizing, providing adequate shelter and slight ease. Immigrant families, especially those from religious and ethnic minorities coping with a strange and often hostile environment, suffer most, but many of their problems can, with attention and at small cost, be solved, according to a report by the London architects Gregory Penoyre and Sunand Prasad called "Accommodating Diversity: Housing Design in a Multicultural Society."

Britain has 3 million inhabitants from minority ethnic groups, mostly in highly urbanized areas, and all of them, especially Africans and Afro-Caribbeans, have problems getting decent housing. Prasad says attempts at improving conditions are more intense in Britain than in other countries, in part because of an especially complex immigrant experience.

The sheer diversity and scale of the British colonial venture is what makes it different. Britain's very long history of colonial entanglement is where it all starts. The more recent history of interchange is now leading to an extraordinary period where in this country there are real signs of a multicultural society, still fragile and full of danger.

Prasad likes to say that his firm designs everything from opera houses to operating theaters but they are especially active in public housing for minority groups, working now on the conversion of early 19th-century houses in Stepney to accommodate immigrant extended families.

Their research has indicated that immigrant families do not wish their houses to stand out and prefer to avoid areas of high racial harassment. Statistically more vulnerable to criminal attacks, dwellings should be sited to provide maximum security, perhaps in a horse-shoe shape so that occupants can overlook each other's entrances.

Layouts should provide for, say, the Bangladeshi custom of several generations living under the same roof, or Muslim separation of men and women. Certain groups have expressed a need for space for a shrine and for ritual washing, many purchase food in bulk and so require more storage space.

One scheme for Afro-Caribbean older people in south London has added glazed, veranda-like circulation space to replicate the Caribbean relationship between indoors and outdoors in an unfriendly cold climate.

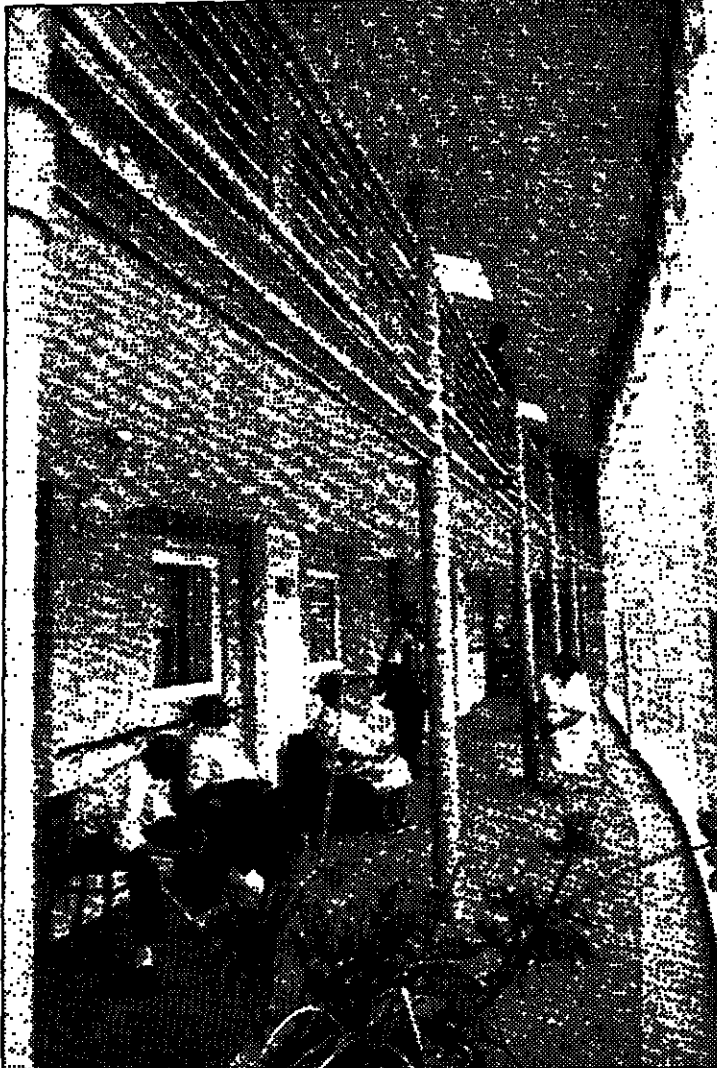
In bedrooms, Muslims do not wish the feet to point to Mecca. Kurds prefer a north-south axis, some Chinese will not have the bed face any door, including a closet.

The groups studied for the Home Housing Trust by Penoyre and Prasad and four architectural practices specializing in minority needs were African, Arab, Bangladeshi, Caribbean, Chinese, Filipino, Greek, Cypriot, Indian, Jewish, Kurdish, Pakistani, Somali, Tamil, Turkish, Turkish Cypriot, Vietnamese and West African. Religions involved ranged from Coptic to Zoroastrian, languages from Hakka to Twi.

The point was to provide comfort now as well as flexibility so that the housing will remain suitable as customs become more integrated or neighborhoods change.

For now, many of the suggestions are quite specific. For people who prefer to sit on the floor, lower window sills to provide light. White worktops should be avoided in the kitchen because they are easily stained by the turmeric that is used widely in many cuisines. Smoke-detector alarms should be carefully placed so that they are not set off when incense is burned. Private outdoor space such as balconies can be used for sun-drying popadams.

The last suggestion, Prasad says, caused much merriment in the press when the second edition of the report was released during the summer silly season. Some immigrants hotly denied any interest in



The architects are active in public housing for minority groups.

popadams and found the suggestion patronizing. "It is far from patronizing, it is largely directed by the people involved," Prasad says. Others criticized what they considered a ghetto approach.

"This is the very reverse of ghettoizing. This is to say let's look at all housing, we think that all housing can be improved by taking a more generous view of the lifestyle

we'll all be separate, but this isn't the message at all. Take disabilities, it's now totally established that we should make buildings accessible for people with disabilities and this has had only one effect on housing, it's made it more generous and better. Doorways are wider, there's room to swing a cat, the nicest loos to use are those designed for disabilities, don't you always go for them?"

The Vietnamese shrine can always later become a bookcase, large-family homes can be divided as demographics change, showers with constantly running water rather than stagnant bathtubs already suit current tastes.

Prasad, whose early years were spent in Gandhi's ashram in central India and who came to England as a schoolboy 35 years ago when his father took a job with an international pacifist group, says England has changed a great deal in his lifetime. "It was far, far worse, I've seen some very bad things, I've personally suffered from racism and violence as well, but I think that given the way human history moves you have to accept some of these things for a fact, and a lot of things are getting better. There is more transparency, a lot of discussion, booklets like ours can come out."

But as the booklet reminds us, a lot remains to be done. One detail: The letter flaps traditional on English front doors are not recommended for minority housing because excreta and gasoline-soaked rags are often shoved through them.

Since the first edition of the booklet came out in 1993, its recommendations, although simple and cost-effective, have not been taken forward by other architects, Prasad admits. Yet the adaptation of local housing to the habits of outsiders is older even than the British Raj.

Early English settlers in Bengal adapted the local one-story cottage to their own needs and tastes. The new house form took its name in 1676 from *bangla*, or belonging to Bengal, and it was enduringly called the bungalow.

PEOPLE

THE publisher of Penthouse magazine, Bob Guccione, may evict his son from a \$1.5 million apartment in New York that the son claims was a gift, a judge ruled. Anthony Guccione, 38, has lived in the loft since 1987, when, he said, his father gave it to him for doing well at Harvard and for joining the family business. But a judge said the elder Guccione kept the apartment in his name and there was no proof he had given it to his son. The elder Guccione would not comment. His son said he would appeal. The two don't speak. "I feel very aggrieved by what I see as my father's dirty tricks and harassment tactics for the two and a half years since I left the company," he said.

Paul McCartney has found companionship with the textile designer Sue Timney after the death last year of his wife, Linda, the Daily Mail says. Timney, 52, who is separated from her husband, had been spending time with McCartney at his farmhouse near Rye in southern England, the tabloid said. It quoted an unidentified friend as saying,

"It is wonderful for Paul to have company and Sue is a great cook and a caring person. They are extremely close." The Daily Mail quoted Timney as saying: "I am a friend of Paul's. I am a friend of the family's. There is nothing more to say."

A court in Frankfurt has rejected a legal complaint brought by the former figure skating champion Katarina Witt against a newspaper that published a picture of her in the nude. The newspaper reprinted the photo from a set of pictures that appeared in the December edition of Playboy magazine that Witt had posed for. The Frankfurt District Court ruled that the newspaper had not invaded Witt's privacy by reprinting the photo. Witt is a public figure, the court said in a statement.

Prime Minister Hasina Wazed of Bangladesh and the former U.S. senator George Mitchell have been named the winners of Unesco's 1998 Honorary Boigny peace award. Mitchell helped

broker last year's peace accord in Northern Ireland, and Sheikh Hasina signed a peace deal with tribal leaders in December 1997, ending a 22-year insurgency that had claimed at least 25,000 lives. They were given the award for "their contribution to the resolution of conflicts in Bangladesh and Northern Ireland" by a jury chaired by the former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

Luciano Pavarotti says he doesn't know quite what to expect when he performs next week in Las Vegas, for a third time. But he knows there will be roulette tables waiting to take his money again. The tenor is scheduled to make a rare appearance in the gambling capital on April 10, christening the 12,000-seat Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino Events Center. The concert will be his first there since March 1985. He recalls being "very comfortable" with his Las Vegas audiences, and in the casino — at least for a while. "I won a couple thousand dollars at roulette," he said. "Then I lost it, like everybody does."



GREETINGS — A bronze head that is part of an exhibition at the National Palace Museum in Taiwan of 1,700-year-old artifacts unearthed in Sichuan, China.



(put on a happy face)

and use AT&T Direct® Service.

All it takes is your AT&T Calling Card or credit card, and you're well on your way. So smile.

Steps to follow for easy calling worldwide:

1. Just dial the AT&T Access Number for the country you are calling from.
2. Dial the phone number you're calling.
3. Dial your card number.



AT&T Access Numbers			
Austria	022-993-011	Greece	00-800-1311
Belgium	0-800-100-19	Ireland	1-800-850-000
Czech Republic	00-42-000-101	Israel	1-800-94-94-99
Egypt (Cairo)	510-0200	Italy	172-1011
France	0-800-99-0011	Netherlands	0800-022-911
Germany	0800-2255-225	Russia (Moscow)	733-5942
		Saudi Arabia	1-800-1000
		Spain	906-99-06-11
		Sweden	020-795-611
		Switzerland	0800-89-0011
		United Kingdom	0800-89-0011
		United Kingdom	0800-89-0011

For access numbers not listed above, ask any operator for AT&T Direct Service, or visit our Web site at www.att.com/traveler



It's all within your reach.

Credit card calling subject to availability. Payment terms subject to your credit card agreement. Bold-faced countries permit country-to-country calling outside the U.S. Collect calling is available to the U.S. only. Country-to-country rates consist of the cost of a call to the U.S. plus an additional charge based on the country you are calling. You can call the U.S. from all countries listed above. *Pay phone deposit. *Limited availability. *Calling available to most countries. *Public phones require local coin payment during the call. *Dial "02" first, outside Cairo. *Additional charges apply outside Moscow. *U.K. access number in N. Ireland. *U.K. call does not complete, use 0800-073-0011. ©1998 AT&T

مكتبة القاهرة